

# ARMY



# NAVY

GAZETTE OF THE  
REGULAR

## JOURNAL.

AND VOLUNTEER  
FORCES.

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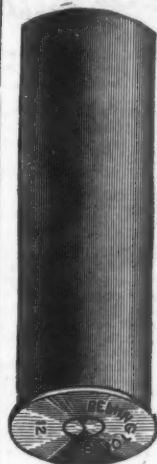
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## THE ARMY.

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Brigadier-General Stephen V. Benét, Chief of Ordnance.

W.T. Sherman, General of the Army of the United States.

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First Lieut. C. Bird, 23d Inf.

First Lieut. J. M. Ross, 21st Inf.

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First Lieut. L. M. O'Brien, 17th Inf.

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Harrisburg, Pa. Capt. M. H. Stacey, 13th Inf.

St. Louis, Mo. 112 North 9th st. Capt. E. B. Savage, 8th Inf.

Washington, D.C. 1221 H st. Capt. H. C. Corbin, 24th Inf.

## ABSTRACT OF IMPORTANT ORDERS.

G. O. 7, H. Q. A., Feb. 26, 1878.

Publishes the following act of Congress:

AN ACT for the removal of obstructions from the Mississippi, Missouri, Arkansas, and Red Rivers, and for the preservation of the public property.

## STAFF CORPS AND DEPARTMENTS.

The following changes in the stations of the Corps of Engineers are made: During the temporary absence of Major W. Craigbill from his station, he will be relieved of works now in his charge, as follows, viz: Of the improvement of the upper New River, by Captain J. W. Cuyler, who will take station on or before June 1, 1878, at New River Depot or some other point convenient to the operations on New River. Of the improvements of Chester, Wicomico, and Elk Rivers, Md.; of the James and Appomattox Rivers, Va.; of the Cape Fear River, N. C.; of harbor of Baltimore, Md.; of defenses of Baltimore, Md., and Washington, D. C., and the improvement of the Great Kanawha River, W. Va., by Capt. C. B. Phillips. During the temporary absence of Major W. E. Merrill, in Europe, he will be relieved of the duties under his charge by 1st Lieut. F. A. Mahan. Major F. U. Farquhar will change his station from St. Paul, Minn., to Rock Island, Ill. (S. O., Feb. 27, W. D.)

Before a General Court martial which convened at Buffalo, N. Y., Jan. 16, 1878, and of which Col. Israel Vogdes, is president, was arraigned and tried, Lieut. Colonel Charles E. Blunt, Corps of Engineers, U. S. Army. Charge.—"Neglect of and violation of duty, to the prejudice of good order and military discipline." The specifications number thirty-three, and allege that the accused "did certify as correct and just" payrolls "purporting to contain the receipts of certain employees for certain sums as paid to them respectively by said Blunt," whereas in fact they "were paid nothing whatever by said Blunt, but the aggregate of the said sums were paid by him to contractors, the vouchers there made "being irregular, incorrect, unauthorized, and deceptive;" that "the hire of certain tugs, scows, and teams," was entered as labor on vouchers certified by Col. Blunt as "correct and just;" and that false vouchers for labor never rendered or over charged were similarly certified, and finally (what in fact is the key to the whole case) that he

being in charge of the public works of harbor improvement at Buffalo, N. Y., and Erie, Penn., and being the disbursing officer for said works, did leave and confide to his chief clerk, J. W. Dominick, important trusts legally devolved upon him, to wit: the making of payments to persons furnishing work, labor, and materials for said works, and the preparation of the vouchers and accounts for said payments—as a result of which loose, irregular, and unauthorized practice, payments were improperly made, public funds disbursed were temporarily diverted from their legitimate purpose, and vouchers and accounts were rendered by the said Blunt to the Chief of Engineers, which were irregular, incorrect, and in part false, he, the said Blunt, thus neglecting and transferring his official duties, to the demoralization of the said Dominick, and to the jeopardy of the interests of the United States. This act or near Buffalo, in or about the months of January, February, March, April, May, June, July, September, October, November, and December, 1876.

The accused's plea of guilty was confirmed by the court, and he was sentenced "to be suspended from rank and command for the period of two years, and to forfeit seventy-five dollars a month during the same period." This sentence has been mitigated by the President to "suspension from rank and command, with forfeiture of one hundred and fifty dollars per month of his pay for one year." By direction of the Secretary of War the sentence will take effect March 6, 1878.

Surgeon E. P. Vollum, member G. C. M.—St. Louis Bks. Mo., March 18 (S. O., March 2, W. D.)

1st Lieut. E. H. Rufner, Corps of Engineers, member G. C. M. Fort Lyon, Col., by par. 1, S. O. 6, from these Hdqs (S. O. 41, March 1, D. M.)

A. Surg. J. D. Hall, M. D., member G. C. M. Fort Independence, Mass., March 4 (S. O. 37, Feb. 26, D. E.)

1st Lieut. J. A. Augur, A. D. C., to accompany the Major-General commanding the Mil. Division, to Fort Pike, La., and return (S. O. 29, Feb. 27, D. G.)

Capt. O. E. Michaelis, Chief Ordnance Officer of the Dept., will proceed to Fort Totten (S. O. 25, Feb. 23, D. D.)

## LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

One month, to take effect March 3, A. Surg. M. E. Taylor, Baton Rouge Bks, La. (S. O. 29, Feb. 27, D. G.)

Four months, with permission to go beyond sea, is granted Major G. Weitzel, Corps of Engineers (S. O., March 4, W. D.)

Colonel P. V. Hagner, Ord. Dept., extended fifteen days (S. O., March 1, W. D.)

A. Surg. C. K. Winne, Fort McPherson, Neb., extended one month (S. O. 17, March 4, M. D. M.)

## PAYMENT OF TROOPS.

Major W. H. Johnston, P. D., will proceed to Leavenworth, Kas, proceeding to pay the troops stationed at Forts Gibson, Sill, and Reno, Ind. T., to Feb. 28, 1878 (S. O. 39, Feb. 27, D. M.)

Major W. P. Gould, P. D., will pay the troops stationed at Fort Johnston, N. C., and Charleston, S. C., on the muster and pay rolls of Feb. 23, 1878 (S. O. 24, Feb. 26, D. S.)

## NON-COMMISSIONED STAFF.

Hosp. Steward W. B. Young, from duty in the Dept.

of the East to Soldiers' Home, District of Columbia (S. O., Feb. 28, W. D.)

Furlough for three months, with permission to go beyond sea, to Com. Sergt. C. Mushaweck (S. O., Feb. 27, W. D.)

Hosp. Steward H. Krueger will proceed to Carlisle Bks. Penn., and relieve Hosp. Steward A. Herbst (S. O. 17, Feb. 25, M. D. A.)

The following changes in the stations and duties of Ord. Sergeants are made: C. Mulhern, from Ft. Griffin, Texas, to Fort Morgan, Ala., relieving H. B. Dardinger, who will proceed to Fort Keogh, M. T. (S. O., March 1, W. D.)

## THE LINE.

### CHANGES OF STATIONS OF TROOPS.

Reported to the Adjutant-General's Office during the week ending Saturday, March 2, 1878:

Co. B, 6th Cav., from Camp Lowell, Ariz. T., to Camp Huachuca, Ariz. T.

Co. M, 6th Cav., from Camp Grant, Ariz. T., to Camp Huachuca, Ariz. T.

Hdqs 8th Inf. from Prescott, Ariz. T., to Angel Island, Cal.

Co. F, 8th Inf., from Fort Whipple, Ariz. T., to Camp Mojave, Ariz. T.

Hdqs 12th Inf. from Angel Island, Cal., to Prescott, Ariz.

Co. A, 19th Inf., from Camp Mojave, Ariz. T., to Fort Whipple, Ariz. T.

Co. B, 24th Inf., from Fort Clark, Tex., to Fort Duncan, Tex.

Co. D, 24th Inf., from Fort Clark, Tex., to Fort McIntosh, Tex.

Co. B, 25th Inf., from Fort Clark, Tex., to San Felipe, Tex.

Post Established.—Camp Huachuca, Ariz. T.

1ST CAVALRY, Colonel Ouviaer Grover.—Headquarters, and E. F. H. L. Fort Walla Walla, W. T.; C. Camp Bidwell, Cal.; B. Fort Klamath, Oregon; I. Camp Halleck, Nev.; A. K. Camp Harney, Or.; M. Fort Colville, Wash. T.; D. Presidio, Cal.; G. Fort Boise, I. T.

2ND CAVALRY, Colonel I. N. Palmer.—Headquarters and C. D. K. M. Fort Custer, M. T.; A. B. E. I. Fort Keogh; F. G. H. L. Fort Ellis, M. T.

Leave of Absence.—Eight months, from Feb. 1, on Surg. certificate, with permission to go beyond sea, 2d Lieut. A. M. Fuller (S. O., March 4, W. D.)

3RD CAVALRY, Col. Thos. C. Devin.—Headquarters, and A. B. F. K. Fort Laramie, W. T.; I. Fort Patterson, W. T.; C. Camp Robinson, Neb.; G. Camp Sheridan, Neb.; D. Fort Sanders, W. T.; E. L. New Red Cloud Agency, D. T.; H. M. New Spotted Tail Agency, D. T.

Change of Station.—2d Lieut. J. Allen, 3d Cav., now at the office of the Chief Signal Officer, to Santa Fe, N. M., relieving 2d Lieut. S. C. Vedder, 19th Inf., of his duties in connection with Government telegraph lines (S. O., Feb. 28, W. D.)

Detached Service.—2d Lieut. B. Reynolds and Additional 2d Lieut. F. H. French will proceed, at once, to Camp Sheridan, Neb. (S. O. 18, Feb. 23, D. P.)

Leave of Absence.—One month, to apply for extension of two months, 2d Lieut. G. F. Chase, Fort Laramie, W. T. (S. O. 20, Feb. 26, D. P.)

One month, to apply for extension of one month, Capt. A. Moore, Fort Laramie, W. T. (S. O. 20, Feb. 26, D. P.)

Twenty days, 2d Lieut. F. Schwatka, Spotted Tail Agency (S. O. 26, Feb. 28, D. D.)

Six months, with permission to go beyond sea, Capt. F. Van Vliet (S. O., March 5, W. D.)

Paris Exposition.—Capt. A. Mills is detailed for duty in connection with the Paris Universal Exposition, and will report to Hon. R. C. McCormick, Commissioner General, N. Y. City (S. O., Feb. 27, W. D.)

Hat Creek.—The C. O. Fort Laramie will withdraw the detachment 3d Cav., now stationed at Hat Creek, and cause the removal of all public property, records, etc., thereat, to his post (S. O. 20, Feb. 26, D. P.)

4TH CAVALRY, Col. R. S. Mackenzie.—Headquarters, and A. D. E. K. L. M. Fort Clark, Tex.; G. H. Fort Reno, I. T.; C. Fort Sill, I. T.; I. Camp Supply, I. T.; B. F. Fort Elliott, Tex.

Detached Service.—Capt. W. O'Connell, member, G. C. M. Fort Clark, Tex., per par. 8, S. O. 35, from these Hdqs (S. O. 44, Feb. 27, D. T.)

5TH CAVALRY, Col. W. Merritt.—Headquarters and A. B. F. H. I. Fort D. A. Russell, W. T.; C. E. M. Fort McKinney, W. T.; D. Sidney Bks, Neb.; L. Fort McPherson, Neb.; G. K. Camp Brown, W. T.

Detached Service.—1st Lieut. W. C. Forbush, J. A. of G. C. M. St. Louis Bks, Mo., March 18 (S. O., March 2, W. D.)

Leave of Absence.—One month, to apply for extension of five months and for authority to go beyond the sea, Capt. J. S. Payne, Fort Fred. Steele, W. T. (S. O. 20, Feb. 26, D. P.)

Relieved.—1st Lieut. C. King is relieved as J. A. of G. C. M. Fort D. A. Russell, W. T., by par. 3, S. O. 7, from these Hdqs, and 1st Lieut. W. P. Hall, Q. M., is detailed as J. A. in his stead (S. O. 20, Feb. 26, D. P.)

Fort D. A. Russell.—A correspondent informs us that there has been a lively interchange of courtesies during the winter between the officers and ladies of this post and the residents of Cheyenne. In anticipation of Lent, and in view of the near approach of field service, the occasion of gaiety was closed by a grand hop at the garrison on the 23d of February. One hundred invitations were issued. The dancing hall, which accommodated 33 couples at a time, was decorated under the direction of Capt. Montgomery; Floor Managers, Lieuts. Hall and Swift. Capt. Rodgers and Lieut. Eaton took charge of the supper hall, assisted by Messrs. Weidman and Worthington, post traders. Chief Musician Bradley, leader of the band, and "one of the best cornet players in the country," conducted the music. "Conspicuous amongst the officers of the post was that beau ideal of a soldier,



Col. Hart. He was the head and front of offence to the red men in the recent expedition to Fort Hall, when, on the 25th of January, the Bannacks and Shoshones, 300 strong with 500 horses, were captured. Early on that day the two Indian camps, three miles apart, were surrounded by these companies of the 5th Cavalry, led by Col. Hart, and a detachment of infantry under Gen. Smith. At dawn the braves awoke to discover themselves enmeshed as in the muscular folds of innumerable pythons. Perceiving at a glance the situation, their leader exclaimed, "Two much soldiers!" and incontinently accepted the inevitable, yielding arms, ammunition, stores, ponies and followers. The work was prompt and thorough. Had there been tardier action, the hostiles, whose camps situated in a dense cedar forest, could have made stubborn defence. Not a gun was fired, not a drum beaten, "not a funeral note," and one of the most complete victories won by prudence, energy and promptitude. Col. Kellogg, another of the heroes of Fort Hall, a tall, elegant gentleman; Capt. Hamilton and Montgomery, the latter a descendant of him of Revolutionary times, who fell in the attack upon Quebec; and last but not least, Gen. Merritt, commanding Fort Russell." Our correspondent continues:

Fort Russell is celebrated for its beautiful women. As consolation is in order we note few of the charming toilets. Mrs. General Merritt, who opened the ball with Gov. Thayer of Wyoming, wore black silk, cameo and diamond jewelry. Mrs. Col. Hart, a favorite niece of the late Senator Morton, pink satin elaborately trimmed with point lace and garlands of roses, gold jewelry. Mrs. Capt. Hamilton white brocade satin over white silk, jewelry, necklace of Venetian pendants, rich and rare. Mrs. Major Gibson, a beautiful brunette, black silk trimmed with Valenciennes lace, coral jewelry. Mrs. Capt. Rogers, niece of August Belmont, white brocade silk trimmed with duchesse lace, collar and bracelets of diamonds and pearls. Mrs. Capt. Montgomery white tulle and tulle with scarlet geantines, mosaic and gold jewelry. Mrs. Major Sumner white silk elegantly trimmed with cardinal satin ribbon, hair powdered, exquisite pounce of diamonds. Mrs. Col. Kellogg, a charming blonde, wore blue embroidered silk, point lace trimmings diamond jewelry. Mrs. Capt. Gillis white and lavender tulle trimmed with beautiful flowers, exquisite Turkish jewelry. From Cheyenne the following: Mrs. Goodell, a lovely bride, mauve silk, satin trimming, diamond jewelry. Mrs. Davis black silk princess dress trimmed with chantilly lace, pearl jewelry. Miss Chambers, of Pittsburg, wore one of Worth's perfect costumes, composed of white satin and silk trimmed with fringe a yard deep, duchesse lace and roses, diamond and gold jewelry. Mrs. Whitehead sea foam green silk exquisitely made, pearl jewelry. Mrs. Major Wham, most interesting lady, wife of Paymaster Major Wham, wore black silk on tulle, gold jewelry. Mrs. F. E. Warren, a vivacious brunette, combination dress of buff, blue and black silk, jewelry, diamonds said to be the richest in the Territory. Miss Kingman black tulle trimmed with wreaths upon wreaths of perfect French flowers, very imposing, velvet necklace with crystal pendants. Miss Hodges, of New York, grey silk, hair powdered, natural flowers. Mrs. Emmons, one of the most charming young matrons of Cheyenne, a rare brunette, wore one of Ling's most exquisite dresses, white silk leaped with satin ribbon, jewelry, string upon string of perfect pearls, a bridal present at her recent marriage in St. George's Church, Hanover Square, London.

**6TH CAVALRY**, Col. James Oakes.—Headquarters and C. G. Camp Grant, A. T.; B. M. Camp Huachuca, A. T.; K. Fort Whipple, A. T.; L. Camp Bowie, A. T.; E. D. Camp Apache, A. T.; Camp Verde, A. T.; I. Camp McDowell, A. T.; F. Camp Thomas, A. T.

*Detached Service*.—2d Lieut. W. Baird to Ehrenberg, A. T., and conduct from that place a detachment of recruits for companies of the 6th Cav. stationed at Camp Verde and Fort Whipple, A. T. (S. O. 15, Feb. 15, D. A.)

**7TH CAVALRY**, Colonel S. D. Sturgis.—Headquarters, and A. D. E. G. H. I. K. L. M. Fort A. Lincoln, D. T.; C. F. Ft. Totten, D. T.; B. Standing Rock Agency, D. T.

*Leave Extended*.—Col. S. D. Sturgis, seven days (S. O., March 5, W. D.)

**8TH CAVALRY**, Col. J. I. Gregg.—Headquarters and E. G. H. Ringgold Barracks, Tex.; C. D. I. L. Fort Brown, Tex.; A. B. F. K. M. Fort Clark, Tex.

*Detached Service*.—Col. J. I. Gregg, Capt. W. McCleave, members, G. C. M. St. Louis Bks, Mo., March 18 (S. O., March 2, W. D.)

*Relieved*.—Capt. A. P. Caraher relieved as member G. C. M. Fort Clark, Tex., per par. 8, S. O. 35, from these Hdqrs (S. O. 44, Feb. 27, D. T.)

*Transfers*.—2d Lieut. F. E. Palsps from Co. A to K; 2d Lieut. J. Guest, Jr., from Co. K to A (S. O., March 2, W. D.)

**9TH CAVALRY**, Col. Edward Hatch.—Headquarters, Santa Fe, N. M.; D. E. Fort Union, N. M.; L. Fort Bliss, Tex.; K. Fort Garland, C. T.; P. H. M. Ft. Stanton, N. M.; A. B. C. G. Fort Bayard, N. M.; I. Fort Wingate, N. M.

*Change of Station*.—Cos. B and C from temporary duty at Yuleta, Tex., and will rejoin their proper station, Fort Bayard, N. M. (S. O. 20, Feb. 19, D. N. M.)

*Detached Service*.—1st Lieut. B. Dawson, member, G. C. M. St. Louis Bks, Mo., March 18 (S. O., March 2, W. D.)

**10TH CAVALRY**, Colonel Benjamin H. Grierson.—Headquarters and D. L. M. Ft. Concho, Tex.; A. G. I. Ft. Sill, I. T.; H. K. Fort Davis, Tex.; B. Fort Stockton, Tex.; E. San Felipe, Tex.; F. Ft. Clark, Tex.; C. Ft. McKavett, Tex.

*Detached Service*.—Capt. T. C. Lebo, member, G. C. M. Fort Davis, Tex., per par. 6, S. O. 38, from these Hdqrs (S. O. 43, Feb. 26, D. T.)

**1ST ARTILLERY**, Col. Israel Vogdes.—Headquarters and B. E. F. K. Fort Adams, R. I.; A. I. Fort Warren, Mass.; C. M. Fort Trumbull, Conn.; H. Fort Preble, Me.; D. L. Fort Independence, Mass.; G. Fort Monroe, Va.

*Detached Service*.—Capt. A. M. Randol, 1st Lieut. F. C. Nichols, R. H. Patterson, 2d Lieut. T. C. Patterson, A. Slaker, members, and 1st Lieut. J. C. White, J. A. of G. C. M. Fort Independence, Mass., March 4 (S. O. 37, Feb. 26, D. E.)

**2ND ARTILLERY**.—Colonel William F. Barry.—Headquarters and A. D. M. Fort Henry, Md.; C. Fort Johnston, N. C.; E. F. G. L. San Antonio, Tex.; K. Fort Monroe, Va.; I. Washington, D. C.; B. Fort Foote, Md.

*Detached Service*.—Lieut. Col. H. A. Allen, Capt. H. G. Litchfield, 1st Lieut. J. L. Mast, J. C. Scantling, A. C. Taylor, 2d Lieut. W. A. Simpson, H. Rowan, members, and 2d Lieut. E. E. Gayle, J. A. of G. C. M. Fort McHenry, Md., March 5 (S. O. 39, March 2, D. E.)

*Leave Extended*.—1st Lieut. C. O. Howard, Adj., twenty-three days (S. O. 36, Feb. 25, D. E.)

**3RD ARTILLERY**, Col. George W. Getty.—Headquarters and C. D. L. M. Fort Hamilton, N. Y. H.; A. Ft. Monroe, Va.; E. I. Fort Wadsworth, N. Y. H.; B. Fort Niagara, N. Y.; F. Fort Ontario, N. Y.; H. Madison Bks, N. Y.; K. Flatbush Bks, N. Y.; G. Fort Schuyler, N. Y.

*A Litigious Private*.—Private John G. Corbett, of the 3d Art., seems destined to make himself as well known as his namesake, Boston Corbett, who shot Lincoln's assassin. Gen. Hancock set aside the findings of the Court-martial by which he was tried, and he has sued Major H. G. Gibson for \$5,000 damages for false imprisonment, and has begun another action, for libel in publishing the following letter to Louis De Comeau, a wealthy Frenchman, residing near Fort Wadsworth, whose daughter Corbett was reported to have annoyed with his attention:

Fort Wadsworth,  
New York Harbor, Dec. 8, 1877.

Louis De Comeau, Esq.:

DEAR SIR: I received your note last evening and Mr. Potts also spoke to me on the subject of it. I also saw the other witness Moran, and he pronounces Corbett's statement false. The man is either an infamous scoundrel, which I believe, or he is insane, which I do not believe.

I shall forward the papers to Gen. Hancock, but the man can be punished only by court-martial. It may be necessary for Madame De Comeau and Miss Alice to appear as witnesses and you would prefer their not doing so and will be satisfied with the removal of the man, and I will so state to Gen. Hancock.

The punishment of the scoundrel is attended with so much that it is unpleasant that I hardly know what to best.

Expressing my sincere regret at the occurrence, I am  
Truly yours,  
H. G. Gibson.

Mr. De Comeau has been joined in this last suit. An order was procured from Judge Westervelt, of Richmond County, for the examination of Major Gibson, at New Brighton Town Hall.

**4TH ARTILLERY**, Col. W. H. French.—Headquarters, B. C. E. L. Fresno, Cal.; H. K. Alcatraz Isl., Cal.; M. Fort Stevens, Or.; I. D. G. Fort Canby, Wash. T.; J. Fort Monroe, Va.; A. Fort Townsend, W. T.; F. Ft. San Jose, Cal.

*Lieut. Paddock*.—The Court of Inquiry of which Captain George B. Rodney, 4th Artillery, is president, instituted "upon the demand of 1st Lieutenant George H. Paddock, 4th Artillery, to examine into all the circumstances attending the killing of Private Michael Cassidy, Battery D, 4th Artillery, by Lieutenant Paddock, when Officer of the Day at Camp near Salmon River, Idaho Territory, on or about July 7, 1877, so far as the conduct of Lieutenant Paddock is involved," has reported the following facts and opinion, viz:

Facts: That on the night of July 7, 1877, Private Cassidy, Company D, 4th Artillery, was shot by Lieutenant Paddock, under the following circumstances: It appears from the evidence that Private Cassidy was properly mounted as a member of the camp guard and posted as such. It appears further that Private Cassidy before going on post at midnight wrapped himself in a blanket, and that his appearance was such as to excite the suspicion of several who saw him, and was such as many members of the command considered as resembling the ordinary costume of the hostile Indians. It appears further that, for reasons unexplained to the Court, Private Cassidy went outside the camp limits, and that while returning to the camp he attracted Lieutenant Paddock's notice, excited his suspicions by the peculiar and unusual manner of his approach, and that Lieutenant Paddock fired upon him under the impression that he was an Indian, with the result of killing Private Cassidy.

Opinion: It is to be regretted that Lieutenant Paddock allowed himself to be satisfied of the character of this man without a more critical examination, but the Court is of the opinion that he acted in good faith and that his action was warranted under the circumstances.

The proceedings including the opinion of the Court, founded upon the evidence adduced, are approved (G. O. 8, Feb. 9, D. C.)

**5TH ARTILLERY**, Col. Henry J. Hunt.—Headquarters and E. F. I. Charleston, S. C.; A. K. St. Augustine, Fla.; B. L. M. Fort Barrancas, Fla.; G. H. Fort Brooke, Fla.; C. Fort Monroe, Va.; D. Savannah, Ga.

*Leave of Absence*.—One month, to apply for extension of one month, 1st Lieut. W. Willard, Fort Barrancas, Fla. (S. O. 25, Feb. 28, D. S.)

**1ST INFANTRY**.—Colonel Thomas G. Pitcher.—Headquarters and A. C. E. I. Fort Randall, D. T.; B. G. Lower Brule Agency; H. K. Fort Sully, D. T.; D. Ft. Standing Rock Agency, D. T.

*Change of Station*.—2d Lieut. C. A. Booth, 1st Inf., now at the office of the Chief Signal Officer, Washington, D. C., will proceed to San Diego, Cal., relieving 2d Lieut. P. Reade, 3d Inf., of his duties in connection with Government telegraph lines (S. O., Feb. 28, W. D.)

*Detached Service*.—1st Lieut. W. E. Dougherty to report at these Hdqrs on public business (S. O. 25, Feb. 23, D. D.)

*Leave of Absence*.—One year, on Surg. certificate, 1st Lieut. J. Hamilton (S. O., March 5, W. D.)

**2ND INFANTRY**, Colonel Frank Wheaton.—Headquarters and A. B. D. F. G. Fort Lapwai, I. T.; C. K. Mt. Idaho, I. T.; H. I. Spokane Falls, I. T.; K. Fort Colville, W. T.

*Hancock Minstrel Troupe*.—This troupe gave an entertainment at Grangeville Hall, Fort Lapwai, Idaho T., Feb. 7th, with songs by E. Beck, the Manager; Benson, Business Manager; Sullivan, Stage Manager; Sergt. W. T. Brenner, Treasurer; A. Faysick, T. Scott, and F. Cronseger; an overture by the orchestra, Mr. Bowers, Musical Director, and an opening chorus by the troupe. "Who's Afraid of Ghosts," "Brown's Load of Wood, or the Grangeville Sports," and the burlesque, "The Black Statue," and the "Little Log Cabin," were performed, concluding with a "grand finale walk around by the company." The programme concludes with this notice, "No vulgar or profane language made use of."

**3RD INFANTRY**, Colonel De L. Floyd-Jones.—Headquarters and A. C. E. F. K. Helena, M. T.; B. D. H. I. Missoula City, M. T.; G. Camp Baker, M. T.

*Change of Station*.—2d Lieut. P. Reade will report in person without delay to the Chief Signal Officer of the Army, Washington (S. O., Feb. 28, W. D.)

**4TH INFANTRY**, Colonel Franklin F. Flint.—Headquarters and G. K. Fort Bridger, W. T.; A. Fort Fred. Steele, W. T.; C. Fort Fetterman, W. T.; D. Omaha Bks, Neb.; E. I. Cantonment Reno, W. T.; H. Camp Stambaugh; F. Fort Sanders, W. T.

Non-Commissioned Staff: Sergt.-Major, J. H. Rust; Q. M.

Sergt. J. Wright; Chief Musician, F. A. Gast; Principal Musicians, R. White and R. Schmidt.

1st Sergeants: A. Tohler, A. C. A. Dugan, E. C. Bahr, G. P. McCarthy, H. H. Osborn, K. J. U. Ward, C. J. Kelly, I. L. Dugan, F. J. A. Devine, D.

Sergeants: J. O'Donnell, R. P. E. B. Ostrom, H. J. A. Turner, G. R. Scholgen, G. P. H. Dice, I. P. White, K. P. Riell, K. P. Pollard, A. P. O. Farrell, A. C. Seaton, B. H. Shields, G. J. Roberts, E. F. Baur, E. K. Cox, C. W. Webber, C. J. Smith, H. L. Roper, F. J. Donovan, K. J. O. Cain, F. B. Gerachy, H. G. J. Morgan, H. J. Anderson, K. C. Steele, A. J. Koch, G. W. H. Hanley, I. M. Cunningham, F. J. P. Cochran, D. J. Kiefer, H. E. J. Bowen, E. J. Gallagher, F. J. Powers, B. H. W. Merrill, I. J. Walsh, I. R. Flynn, D. J. Heaslip, D. J. H. Bishop, D. T. Dowd, A. D. Riley, H. M. J. Pollak, B.

Corporals: A. Miller, G. G. Cair, E. M. E. Hayes, E. C. Scribner, K. C. R. Griffin, C. I. Keyser, K. W. Hoffman, A. J. Wilson, B. J. Sheridan, G. P. J. Council, K. J. C. Deata, G. J. H. Sweeney, H. M. Henesey, B. J. Turner, F. A. N. Campbell, F. W. Johnston, F. R. McTamanev, H. W. Keon, B. M. M. Perl, B. G. Tait, I. R. O. Sullivan, E. D. J. Regan, A. B. Degnan, D. N. Vasser, I. G. Rowell, D. J. Moore, B. E. Kimmer, K.

**5TH INFANTRY**, Colonel Nelson A. Miles.—Headquarters and A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. K. Ft. Keogh, M. T. *Change of Station*.—2d Lieut. H. K. Bailey will report to the C. O. Fort Snelling, for duty with recruits for posts in Mont. T. (S. O. 25, Feb. 23, D. D.)

*To Join*.—2d Lieut. M. P. Thorington will proceed to join his company at Fort Keogh, M. T. (S. O., March 1, W. D.)

*How it feels to be Shot*.—The Helena, M. T., *Week's* says: Capt. Henry Romeyn is now in Detroit recovering from the wounds which he received in the last battle with Joseph's warriors. He tells the story thus: "You see, I had been struck five times. One ball shattering my field glass; another raised a disagreeable lump on my left shoulder, and the others only damaged my clothing. I ought to say that very early in the fight my horse was killed, and when I saw General Miles riding close up, apparently unconscious that he was getting into a hot corner, I warned him to keep back. I had been lying comparatively hidden in the long grass. I stood up to take an observation, when quicker than a flash some warrior singled me out and let drive. I felt as if a red hot iron bar had been through me. I stood rooted in my tracks for a moment, gasped and felt the air coming in at my back. The next instant my mouth filled with blood, and then I knew I had been shot in the lung. I walked seventy-five yards and then fell."

**6TH INFANTRY**, Colonel William B. Hazen.—Headquarters and E. F. G. I. Ft. Buford, D. T.; A. Fort Rice, D. T.; B. Ft. Abraham Lincoln, D. T.; H. K. Fort Stevenson, D. T.; C. Glendive, M. T.; D. Fort Peck, M. T.

**7TH INFANTRY**, Col. John Gibbon.—Headquarters, and A. B. C. H. I. K. Fort Shaw, M. T.; G. Fort Ellis, M. T.; D. E. Camp Baker, M. T.; F. Fort Benton, M. T.

**8TH INFANTRY**, Col. August V. Kautz.—Headquarters, Angel Island, Cal.; F. Camp Mojave, A. T.; A. B. Camp Verde, A. T.; C. Camp McDowell, A. T.; K. Camp Lowell, A. T.; E. G. Camp Apache, A. T.; H. San Diego, Cal.; I. Cp. Grant, A. T.; D. Camp Thomas, A. T.

*Detached Service*.—Capt. E. B. Savage, member, G. C. M. St. Louis Bks, Mo., March 18 (S. O., March 2, W. D.)

**9TH INFANTRY**, Col. John H. King.—Headquarters and B. G. H. I. Omaha Barrack, Neb.; E. Cantonment Reno, W. T.; A. F. Fort McPherson, Neb.; C. Camp at Cheyenne Depot, W. T.; D. Sidney Bks, Neb.; K. Fort Sanders, W. T.

**10TH INFANTRY**, Colonel Henry B. Clitz.—Headquarters and A. B. C. F. I. Fort McKavett, Texas; D. Fort McIntosh, Tex.; E. Fort Richardson, Tex.; G. H. K. Fort Clark, Tex.

*Detached Service*.—2d Lieut. S. Y. Seyburn will wait in San Antonio the arrival of prisoners en route from Fort Clark (S. O. 43, Feb. 26, D. T.)

1st Lieut. A. Larke, member, G. C. M. Fort McKavett, Tex., per par. 7, S. O. 21, from these Hdqrs (S. O. 43, Feb. 26, D. T.)

*Relieved*.—1st Lieut. D. H. Kelton relieved as member G. C. M. Fort McKavett, Tex., per par. 7, S. O. 21, from these Hdqrs (S. O. 43, Feb. 26, D. T.)

**11TH INFANTRY**, Colonel William H. Wood.—Headquarters and A. D. E. G. I. K. Cheyenne Agency, D. T.; H. Fort Custer, M. T.; B. C. F. Post No. 4, M. T.

*Detached Service*.—1st Lieut. L. A. Matile will report to the C. O. Fort Snelling, to conduct to their stations any enlisted men that may be there for Cheyenne Agency, or for posts in this Dept. on the Missouri River below that station. Upon arrival at Cheyenne Agency, Lieut. Matile will report for duty with his company (S. O. 26, Feb. 28, D. D.)

*Leave Extended*.—2d Lieut. F. W. Mansfield, two months (S. O., March 2, W. D.)

**12TH INFANTRY**, Colonel Orlando B. Willcox.—Headquarters, Prescott, A. T.; C. D. F. Angel Island, Cal.; E. Camp Grant, Cal.; G. Camp Bidwell, Cal.; I. Camp McDermitt, Nev.; H. Camp Halleck, Nev.; B. K. Bonicia Bks, Cal.; A. Fort Whipple, A. T.

*Detached Service*.—Lieut. Col. A. D. Nelson, Insp. Gen., to Fort Totten (S. O. 25, Feb. 23, D. D.)

*Paris Exposition*.—Lieut. Col. A. D. Nelson is detailed for duty in connection with the Paris Universal Exposition, and will report to Hon. R. C. McCormick, Commissioner General, N. Y. City (S. O., Feb. 27, W. D.)

**13TH INFANTRY**, Colonel P. R. de Trobriand.—Headquarters and A. D. H. I. Jackson Bks, La.; B. F. K. Baton Rouge Bks, La.; C. E. Little Rock Bks, Ark.; G. Mount Vernon, Ala.

*Leave of Absence*.—Ten days, to date from the 9th inst., 2d Lieut. M. F. Jamar, Jackson Bks, La. (S. O. 20, Feb. 6, D. G.)

**14TH INFANTRY**, Col. John E. Smith.—Headquarters and D. E. F. G. I. Camp Douglas, Utah; A. Fort Hall, Idaho; B. C. H. Fort Camaron, U. T.; K. Fort Hartau.

*Leave of Absence*.—One month, to apply for extension of one month, Col. J. E. Smith, Camp Douglas, U. T. (S. O. 20, Feb. 26, D. I.)

**15TH INFANTRY**, Col. Geo. A. Woodward.—Headquarters and D. K. Ft. Wingate, N. M.; B. Ft. Garland, A. T.; A. G. Fort Craig, N. M.; F. Ft. Union, N. M.; E. Fort Bayard, N. M.; H. Fort Stanton, N. M.; I. Fort Marcy, N. M.; C. Fort Bliss, Tex.

*Detached Service*.—Capt. H. Jewett, Fort Wingate,



N. M., will proceed to N. Y. City and report to the J. A. of G. C. M. at that place as a witness in the case of Col. O. L. Shepherd, retired (S. O. 20, Feb. 19, D. N. M.)

To Join.—Capt. T. Blair, from duty at El Paso, Tex., to join his company at Fort Stanton, N. M. (S. O. 21, Feb. 21, D. N. M.)

16TH INFANTRY, Colonel G. Pennypacker.—Headqrs. A. C. H. Fort Riley, Kas.; E. I. Fort Reno, I. T.; B. D. Fort Sill, I. T.; G. Fort Hays, Kas.; K. Fort Gibson, I. T.; F. Fort Wallace, Kas.

17TH INFANTRY, Colonel Thomas L. Crittenden.—Headquarters and B. D. I. Standing Rock Ay., D. T.; G. Fort Fort A. Lincoln, D. T.; H. Fort Rice, D. T.; A. Fort Sisseton, D. T.; C. Fort Totten, D. T.; E. K. Fort Pembina, D. T.; F. Fort Snelling, Minn.

Rejoin.—Capt. J. H. Donovan, now in St. Paul, will return to his station at Fort Pembina (S. O. 26, Feb. 23, D. D.)

18TH INFANTRY, Colonel Thomas H. Ruger.—Headquarters and B. C. D. E. F. G. K. McPherson Bks, Atlanta, Ga.; H. I. Newport Bks, Ky.; A. Chattanooga, Tenn.

Leave of Absence.—Ten days, 1st Lieut. F. H. Barnhart, McPherson Bks, Atlanta, Ga. (S. O. 26, March 1, D. S.)

19TH INFANTRY, Colonel Charles H. Smith.—Headquarters and B. H. K. Ft. Lyon, C. T.; F. G. Ft. Dodge, Kas.; D. Fort Larned, Kas.; C. I. Fort Elliott, Tex.; A. B. Camp Supply, I. T.

Change of Station.—2d Lieut. S. C. Vedder will report in person without delay to the Chief Signal Officer, Washington (S. O. Feb. 28, W. D.)

Detached Service.—Col. C. H. Smith from Fort Lyon, Colo., to Fort Dodge, Kas. (S. O. 36, Feb. 23, D. M.)

Capt. L. O'Reilly, member, G. C. M. Fort Lyon, Colo., by par. 1, S. O. 6, from these Hdqrs (S. O. 37, Feb. 25, D. M.)

Leave Extended.—Capt. W. T. Gentry, three months (S. O., March 1, W. D.)

20TH INFANTRY, Colonel Geo. Sykes.—Headquarters and B. D. G. I. K. Fort Brown, Tex.; A. San Antonio, Tex.; C. E. H. Fort Clark, Tex.

21ST INFANTRY, Colonel Alfred Sully.—Headquarters and B. D. E. G. H. I. Fort Vancouver, W. T.; K. Camp Harney, Or.; C. Ft. Townsend, W. T.; F. Fort Klamath, Or.; A. Fort Boise, I. T.

Leave of Absence.—Four months, 1st Lieut. H. H. Pierce (S. O., March 1, W. D.)

22ND INFANTRY, Colonel David S. Stanley.—Headquarters and A. C. D. H. Fort Wayne, Mich.; F. K. Fort Brady, Mich.; B. G. Fort Porter, N. Y.; E. Fort Mackinac, Mich.; I. Fort Gratiot, Mich.

Leave Extended.—1st Lieut. C. C. Cusick, Fort Brady, Mich., ten days (S. O. 36, Feb. 25, D. E.)

23RD INFANTRY, Colonel Jeff. C. Davis.—Headquarters and A. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. K. Fort Leavenworth, Kas.; L. Fort Dodge, Kas.

Leave of Absence.—One month, to apply for extension of one month, 1st Lieut. F. L. Dodge, Fort Leavenworth, Kas. (S. O. 37, Feb. 25, D. M.)

One month, Capt. O. W. Pollock, Fort Leavenworth, Kas. (S. O. 38, Feb. 26, D. M.)

Relieved.—Lieut.-Col. R. L. Dodge from duty as member G. C. M. Fort Lyon, Colo., by par. 1, S. O. 6, from these Hdqrs (S. O. 37, Feb. 25, D. M.)

24TH INFANTRY, Colonel Joseph H. Potter.—Headquarters and B. F. Fort Duncan, Tex.; A. Fort Clark, Tex.; D. E. H. Fort McIntosh, Tex.; C. G. I. K. Ringgold Barracks, Tex.

25TH INFANTRY, Colonel George L. Andrews.—Headquarters and A. E. H. I. Fort Davis, Tex.; C. D. F. Fort Stockton, Tex.; B. San Felipe, Tex.; G. K. Ft. Concho, Tex.

Detached Service.—2d Lieut. H. Rade, member, G. C. M. Fort Davis, Tex., per par. 6, S. O. 38, from these Hdqrs (S. O. 43, Feb. 26, D. T.)

Leave of Absence.—One month, to apply for extension of five months, Capt. G. Lawson, Fort Davis, Tex. (S. O. 45, Feb. 28, D. T.)

Casualties among the Commissioned Officers of the U. S. Army reported to the Adjutant-General's Office during the week ending Saturday, March 2, 1878.

2d Lieut. Harry T. Hammond, 9th Cav.—Resigned March 1, 1878.

Officers Regarded.—At Hdqrs Mil. Div. Atlantic, March 5: 1st Lieut. E. K. Russell, 1st Art.; Capt. L. L. Langdon, 1st Art.; Capt. J. N. Wheelan, 2d Cav.; Capt. W. P. Huxford, U. S. A.; 2d Lieut. J. R. McAuliffe, 5th Art.; 2d Lieut. A. Rodgers, 4th Cav.; Capt. F. E. Taylor, 1st Art.

Enlisted Men Sentenced to Confinement.

One Month.—J. Williams, B. 1st Cav.; W. D. Ryan, B. 1st Cav.

Three Months.—J. Patterson, K. 8th Cav.

Four Months.—J. Baker, E. 25th Inf.; C. Moll, F. 2d Art.; J. McDonald, F. 31st Inf.; J. Scott, G. 1st Art.; W. Bender, recruit.

Six Months.—J. Leonard, H. 2d Inf.

Eight Months.—L. Laundorfer, F. 8th Cav.; J. W. Lambert, C. 10th Inf.; W. French, C. 3d Art.; E. S. Kendrick, A. 3d Cav.

One Year.—B. J. Davis, F. 2d Inf.; P. J. Gilligan, recruit.

Two Years.—H. W. Moore, M. 3d Art.; J. James, B. 1st Inf.; C. B. Fitzgerald, A. 7th Cav.

Three Years.—A. Scherer, J. 2d Cav.; G. W. Collins, H. 7th Inf.; D. Russell, M. 5th Art.; C. Colgan, I. 7th Cav.; C. H. Smith, General Mounted Service.

Four Years.—H. Lester, D. 23d Inf.

BASE BALL.—From Fort Reno, Ind. Ty., a correspondent writes, Feb. 19:

The base ball season was opened quite early at this post this season by a game played, Feb. 17, between picked nines of the 4th Cavalry, Cos. H and G, and 16th Infantry, Cos. E and F, now stationed here. Considering their want of practice, the boys played very well, the game being close and interesting, resulting in a score of 14 to 13, in favor of the cavalry. Messrs. Casey, Martin, Newton, and Haas, of Co. H, of the cavalry, and Fritz, Murphy, and Pike, of the infantry, are worthy of special mention, for their energetic and skillful playing. The Star B. B. Club, Co. H, 4th Cavalry, will present a good nine this year, and would like to arrange matches with other company nines whenever practicable.

PRIVATE SAYERS.

U. S. SUPREME COURT, OCTOBER TERM, 1877.  
The United States, Appellant, v. John T. Morrison.—  
Appeal from the Court of Claims.

Mr. Chief Justice WAITE delivered the opinion of the court.

Morrison, the appellee, a lieutenant in the tenth regiment of cavalry, was appointed regimental quartermaster, and his appointment approved June 30, 1875.

On the same day, Hunt, a second lieutenant in the regiment, was promoted to be first lieutenant in the place of Morrison, "appointed regimental quartermaster."

On the 22d October, 1875, Morrison, "in addition to his other duties," was "assigned to duty as assistant commissary of post," and by virtue of that appointment served as acting assistant commissary from November 1, 1875, to and including February 28, 1877.

He has been paid in full as quartermaster, but nothing in addition as acting assistant commissary. This action is brought to recover at the rate of one hundred dollars a year for the extra service.

The single question presented is whether, since the Revised Statutes, a regimental quartermaster serving also as acting assistant commissary is entitled to additional pay on that account.

By section 1102, Revised Statutes, each regiment of cavalry is to have among its officers one quartermaster, who is to be an "extra lieutenant, selected from the first and second lieutenants of the regiment." Such has been the law since 1866. (13 Stat., 99, 5 sec. 11; 14 Stat., 333, sec. 3.)

The selection is made by the colonel or permanent commanding officer of the regiment, subject to the approval of the Secretary of War.

Until 1870, the pay of regimental quartermasters was "ten dollars per month in addition to their pay in the line," and forage (3 Stat., 493, sec. 24); but the act of July 15, 1870 (16 Stat., 320, sec. 24), provided that the "pay of regimental quartermaster shall be eighteen hundred dollars [a year]; the pay of first lieutenant, mounted, shall be sixteen hundred dollars; the pay of first lieutenant, not mounted, shall be fifteen hundred dollars; the pay of second lieutenant, mounted, shall be fifteen hundred dollars; the pay of second lieutenant, not mounted, shall be fourteen hundred dollars; . . . the pay of acting assistant commissary shall be one hundred dollars in addition to pay of his rank." This provision has been reproduced in the Revised Statutes. (Sec. 1261.)

A regimental quartermaster is, therefore, either a first or second lieutenant in rank, and his pay \$1,800. There is no provision for the pay of the rank of lieutenant disconnected from the service to be performed, but the pay of the rank is graduated by the service.

The compensation is not for rank and service, but for rank according to service. Thus, a lieutenant in cavalry service is paid more than in infantry, and in regimental service more than in cavalry. Whether in one service or another, his rank is that of lieutenant, and consequently his pay is that of his rank.

Under the law as it was before 1870, he was paid for his service upon the staff in addition to that for his rank, but now the pay of his rank includes all. Being an extra lieutenant in the regiment assigned to duty as quartermaster, and consequently performing regimental service, his pay as lieutenant is \$1,800. When, therefore, the additional duty of acting assistant commissary is put upon him, it would seem to be clear that, looking at the statute alone, he is entitled to the additional pay allowed for that service.

It is contended, however, that he is not, because, by the Army Regulations, "no officer shall receive pay for two staff appointments at the same time." (Army Reg., 1869, par. 1,345.) If it be conceded that both the quartermaster and acting assistant commissary are now staff appointments, the result claimed does not necessarily follow. When these regulations were adopted, the compensation of a quartermaster for his staff service was by a specific addition to his pay in the line. At that time, therefore, it might well be said that the addition was pay for the staff appointment. But now there is no compensation for staff service separate from that of rank, and, in our opinion, it cannot be said that within the meaning of the regulation a quartermaster receives pay for his staff appointment. He gets more pay as lieutenant by reason of his transfer to a new service, but nothing separate for his appointment. This being the case, the additional compensation which the law gives an acting assistant commissary is not, in the case of a quartermaster performing that service, pay for a second staff appointment.

Judgment affirmed.

## CONGRESS.

The following bills have passed the Senate:

H. R. 1104. Restoring John Purford to the retired list, with the full rank of colonel, on the ground that his injuries, received in battle, are more severe, dangerous, and disabling, and more fully incapacitate and disqualify him for any service or business than would have been the loss of a leg or arm, or the permanent disability of an arm or leg by resection.

S. 603. Repealing the amendment added to section 1270 by the act approved Feb. 27, 1877, 19 Statutes, page 243, to wit: "Provided, however, That when forage in kind cannot be furnished by the proper department, then, and in all such cases, officers entitled to forage may commute the same according to existing regulations," so that hereafter said section shall read as follows: "Sec. 1270. Fuel, quarters, and forage may be furnished in kind to officers by the Quartermaster's Department, according to law and regulations."

S. 725. To amend the 104th Article of War so as to read: "Article 104. No sentence of a Court-martial shall be carried into execution until the whole proceedings shall have been laid before the officer ordering the court, or the officer commanding for the time being, and the sentence shall thereupon have been formally approved by him." In the course of the debate on this bill letters were read from Gen. Hancock and J. A.

Gen. Dunn, showing that "the change from the old 65th Article was unfortunate and probably inadvertent. It has altered the language of the statute without modifying the practice under it, a practice which indeed could not be modified without great embarrassment to the administration of military justice."

Senator Matthews moved the following amendment to the Military Academy bill, which was referred to the Committee on Appropriations:

Provided, That there may be commissioned in the same manner, and placed on the same footing as the other professors, and to be selected from the officers on the retired list of the Army, a professor of law.

Provided further, That the said professor shall only receive the retired pay of the grade from which he is selected and shall receive no additional pay or allowances whatever.

A resolution was passed that 500 copies of the Army Register of 1878 be printed for the use of the Senate. A proposition to take 1,000 copies of Dulin and Dows General Register of the Navy and Marine Corps, at \$4 a copy, was indefinitely postponed.

In the House of Representatives, on the 25th of February, Mr. Banning, by unanimous consent, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported back the bill (H. R. 2865) to reorganize the Army of the United States, to consolidate certain of its staff departments, to reduce the cost of its support, and for other purposes, with sundry amendments, and moved that it be recommitted to the committee and ordered to be printed, not to be brought back on a motion to reconsider. The motion was agreed to.

The House has passed the following bills:

H. R. 356. Directing method of annual estimates of expenditures to be submitted from Navy Department.

H. R. 3104. Granting pension to the widow of Lieut.-Col. J. P. Roy, U. S. A.

H. R. 3296. For the relief of Capt. Wm. L. Foulk. The committee in their report on this bill, which reinstates Capt. Foulk, late of the 10th Cavalry, recount his honorable service during and since the war, and give a letter from the Judge-Advocate-General showing that the assault accompanied by threatening words, for which he was brought to trial and dismissed the Army, Sept. 19, 1873, took place under such palliating circumstances as would have justified some mitigation of the sentence. For this reason the Judge-Advocate-General and the Secretary of War concur in favoring a bill for the relief asked for. The committee say: "Your committee, feeling that great injustice has been done to a gallant and efficient officer, report back the accompanying bill, as a substitute for the bill referred to the committee, with a recommendation that it do pass." The substitute, which also passed the Senate March 5, is as follows:

Be it enacted, etc., That the President be, and he is hereby, authorized to appoint William L. Foulk, late captain in the U. S. cavalry, 10th Regiment, to the position of captain of the same grade and rank held by him at the time he was dropped from the roll.

H. R. 1254. Restoring John A. Darling to his rank and place in the military service. In reporting favorably on this bill, the committee state that Capt. Darling was favorably reported upon by Gen. Canby, his Department Commander, but upon the recommendation of a former commander of the Department, Lieut.-Col. George Crook, was mustered out without being allowed a hearing, as the law required that he should be, so that "this report upon which the War Department based its action cannot possibly be maintained as legally correct or just in the slightest particular. The officer who made it subsequently stated that he had been deceived as to the facts upon which his report and recommendation were based, and his letter is on file in which the statements originally made by him concerning the petitioner are virtually withdrawn."

H. Res. 4. Authorizing Lieut. D. F. Tozier, of the steamer *Dix*, U. S. revenue marine service, to accept from Gen. MacMahon a gold medal as a recognition of his gallant, courageous, and efficient services in saving the French bark *Peabody*, aground Feb. 23, 1877, off Horn Island, Mississippi Sound, Gulf of Mexico.

H. Res. 77. Allowing 1st Lieut. Henry Metcalfe, U. S. A., to accept a decoration from the Sultan of Turkey.

H. R. 2008. For the relief of ex-Surgeon-Gen. Wm. A. Hammond, after an able report in its favor by Gen. McCook, in which the opinion is expressed that while Dr. Hammond was technically guilty of unlawful measures under the peculiar circumstances of his position, "there was a reasonable doubt as to his deliberate purpose to wrong and defraud the Government."

Reported Adversely.—H. R. 1191. For the relief of Lieut. Jas. E. Macklin, 11th Infantry, U. S. A. S. 618. To repeal section 2 of an act entitled "An act for the relief of Gen. Samuel W. Crawford, and to fix the rank and pay of retired officers of the Army," approved March 3, 1875 (postponed indefinitely).

## BILLS INTRODUCED.

H. Res. 113. That the thanks of Congress be due to Colonel Nelson A. Miles for his vigorous and gallant campaign against hostile Indians in the northwest, and for his intelligent and humane treatment of Indian difficulties arising within his jurisdiction, resulting in the establishment of peace, safety to life, and security to property in a region heretofore almost inaccessible.

H. R. 3519. Grants pension to widow of Lieut.-Col. James Totten, A. I. of U. S. A.

H. R. 3104. Granting pension to the widow of Lieut.-Col. J. P. Roy, U. S. A.

H. R. 3113. Granting pension to the widow of Rear-Admiral S. H. Stringham, U. S. N.

H. R. 3115. Granting pension to the widow of Commodore Benj. J. Totten, U. S. N.

3117. Granting pension to the widow of Pay Director A. E. Watson, U. S. N.

H. R. 3120. Repaying to Mrs. Gen. Custer \$3,000 taken from her father as surety in a U. S. Marshal's bond in 1845.

H. R. 3124. To compensate Asa Weeks for his labor and expenses in perfecting torpedoes, torpedo machinery, and the art of torpedo warfare, for the sole and exclusive benefit of the United States, and for other purposes.

H. R. 3128, 3137. Allows Donald McKay and Reaney Son and Archibald, to bring before Court of Claims, claims for extra compensation in building iron-clads.

H. R. 3138. To grant arrears of increase of pensions to all persons who have lost a limb or limbs while in the service of the United States since March 4, 1861.

H. R. 3158. Grants \$100,000 "to Josephine Saffernski Jaroski



as the sole heir-at-law, legal representative, and descendant of General Count Casimir Pulaski, for his sacrifices and eminent services as a brigadier-general, made and rendered to the United States in the war of American Independence, finally the forfeiture of his life at the siege before Savannah, Ga., on October 9, 1779."

H. R. 3291. Provides that the act of March 3, 1849, Sec. 3482, 3489, R. S., and the amendments thereto, of June 23, 1874, relating to horses and equipments lost in the military service of the United States, are hereby revived and continued in force, and claims filed since January 1, 1878, shall be considered as having been filed within the provisions of the law. Sec. 2. That proof of possession prior to entering the Service, or of purchase and payment for horses and equipments by the officer or soldier while in the Service, shall be taken as conclusive evidence of title and ownership.

H. R. 3245. Creates office of captain of scouts, with rank, pay and emoluments of a captain of cavalry, to "have charge of and command all scouts in the department to which he is assigned."

H. R. 3232. Appropriates \$150,000 "for the purpose of building a military post or garrison near the northern boundary of the Territory of Montana, in the vicinity of the point where the Milk River crosses said boundary from the Dominion of Canada, or at such other point in that region as may be, in the judgment of the President, best adapted for the protection of the citizens of Montana from the hostile incursions of the Sioux and other Indian tribes congregated in that region."

H. R. 3234. To restore Horace E. Mullan to his original position on the active list as a lieutenant-commander in the Navy of the United States.

H. R. 3238. "To regulate the granting of pensions on account of death, wounds or injuries received, or disease contracted in the service of the United States since the 1st day of March, 1861, and for the payment of the arrears of pensions; also to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to restore to the roll the names of invalid pensioners stricken therefrom on account of disloyalty, and to repeal sections 4,709, 4,716, and 4,717, R. S."

H. R. 3250. Grants Dr. John A. Tanner \$1,150 for professional services to U. S. troops at Colorado River (A. T.) Indian Reservation in 1871-72.

H. R. 3235. Turns over to Interior Department certain parts of Camp Douglas Reservation.

### A PLEA FOR FITZ JOHN PORTER.

NEW YORK, Monday, Feb. 25, 1878.

To the Editor of the New York Times:

The interesting extract from Gen. Longstreet's letter to the Philadelphia Times, published by you to-day, gives a pretty accurate account of part of the work of General Fitz John Porter's command at the battle of Manassas (second), on both the first and second day's fighting. I commanded, under Gen. Porter, the advance on the first day, which Gen. Longstreet alludes to as too light to mean an attack, though that command kept Longstreet from going against Pope until later in the day. I also commanded the advance and assault upon Gen. Jackson's 2d day, so graphically described by Gen. Longstreet, who went to Stonewall Jackson's assistance. This letter proves what has always been claimed by Porter's friends, and substantiates the fact that gross injustice has been done him. The only justice that has been done to our fighting there comes from two of the most gallant and brave of our enemies.

In addition to Gen. Longstreet's handsome acknowledgment of it, as published in your columns, Stonewall Jackson said, in his report alluding to our assault: "The Federal infantry . . . moved from under cover of the wood and advanced in several lines. . . . In a few moments our entire line was engaged in a fierce and sanguinary struggle with the enemy. As one line was repulsed another took its place and passed forward as if determined by force of numbers and fury of assault to drive us from our position. So impetuous and well maintained were these onsets as to induce me to send to the Commanding General for reinforcements, but the timely and gallant advance of Gen. Longstreet on the right relieved my troops from the pressure of overwhelming numbers."

This language is from General Stonewall Jackson's official report. Our dead lay in rows on that field as they stood in line of battle. Is it not proper—is it not justice—is it not duty, under the calm light of unprejudiced and unbiased testimony from our enemies, that this whole matter should be taken up, examined, and reviewed by a just and unprejudiced tribunal? Can the nation afford to leave the names and memory of the gallant dead on that field aspersed by leaving a brave soldier to suffer from unjust accusation and sentence?

DANIEL BUTTERFIELD.

MILITARY ACADEMY.—The Dialectic Society of the Military Academy held a public meeting at their hall, West Point, N. Y., on the evening of Feb. 23, assisted by the cadet band. Besides the music by the band and a duet by Cadets Dodds and Beardslee, the exercises consisted of an address by President Pettit; a reading by Cadet Dickinson; declamation, Cadet Stivers; "the dialectic howitzer editor," Cadet Howell; a "contribution," Cadet A. Bailey; an oration, Cadet Hock; a debate on the repeal of the resumption act, Cadets Buck, Waite, Evans, and Huse, with a decision and award by Cadet Goode. Cadet Carrow presented a picture to the society. Cadets Merrill, Pickering and Parke served as a committee of arrangements, and Cadets Wolf, Gale, Foltz, Parke and Townsend as ushers.

In the *Atlantic Monthly* for March John Greenleaf Whittier sings the praises of the late Gen. Wm. Francis Bartlett, of Massachusetts, but, true to his own mission as "the Quaker poet," it is upon the deceased General's character as a pacificator that he prefers to dwell:

A soul of fire, a tender heart  
Too warm for hate, he knew  
The generous victor's graceful  
part  
To sheathe the sword he  
drew.

The more than Sidney of our  
day,  
Above the sin and wrong  
Of sin and strife, he always  
heard  
The angels' Advent song!  
Whose dying lips forgave!

When earth, as if on evil  
dreams,  
Looks back upon her wars,  
And the white light of Christ  
outstreams  
From the red disk of Mars,  
That fall for one like him!

## THE NAVY.

RUTHERFORD B. HAYES, President and Commander-in-Chief

RICHARD W. THOMPSON, Secretary of the Navy.

JOHN W. HOGG, Chief Clerk.

### BUREAU OF THE NAVY DEPARTMENT.

YARDS AND DOCKS—Rear-Admiral Jno. C. Howell.  
NAVIGATION—Rear-Admiral Daniel Ammen.  
EQUIPMENT AND RECRUITING—Commodore R. W. Shufeldt.  
ORDNANCE—Commodore Wm. N. Jeffers.  
MEDICINE AND SURGERY—Surgeon-General Wm. Grier.  
PROVISIONS AND CLOTHING—F. M. G., Geo. F. Cutter.  
STEAM ENGINEERING—Eng.-in-Chief Wm. H. Shock.  
CONSTRUCTION AND REPAIR—Chief Constructor John W. Haaby.

### FLAG OFFICERS ABOARD.

EUROPEAN STATION—Rear-Admiral W. E. Le Roy.  
ASIATIC STATION—Rear-Admiral T. H. Patterson.  
NORTH PACIFIC—Rear-Admiral Alex. Murray.  
SOUTH PACIFIC—Rear-Admiral Geo. H. Preble.  
SOUTH ATLANTIC—Commodore Edw. T. Nichols.  
NORTH ATLANTIC—Rear-Admiral S. D. Trenchard.

### FLAG OFFICERS ON SHORE DUTY.

NAVAL OBSERVATORY—Rear-Admiral John Rodgers, Supt.  
NAVAL ASTRONOMY—Rear-Admiral J. H. M.  
Mullany.

NAVAL ACADEMY—Rear-Admiral C. R. P. Rodgers.  
COMMANDANTS NAVY YARDS.  
Commodore E. R. Colhoun, Navy-yard, Mare Island.  
Commodore Foxhall A. Parker, " Boston, Mass.  
Commodore J. W. A. Nicholson, " New York.  
Commodore John C. Feibiger, " Washington, D.C.  
Commodore J. Blakely Creighton, " Norfolk, Va.  
Commodore Peirce Crosby, " League Island, Penn.  
Commodore John Guest, " Portsmouth, N. H.  
Captain George E. Belknap, " Pensacola, Fla.  
Commodore D. McNeill Fairfax, " New London.

### VARIOUS NAVAL ITEMS.

THE *Portsmouth* and *Tallapoosa* arrived at New York on the 6th March.

THE *Franklin* has been brought alongside the yard at Norfolk to be calked, etc.

CAPTAIN SOMERVILLE NICHOLSON was engaged in reading his defence before the Examining Board on Tuesday.

THE *Plymouth* has two or three weeks work before she will be ready for sea. She is expected to make a cruise through the West Indies, going first to the Island of San Domingo, Puerto Plata.

THE *Wyoming* expects to leave Washington March 6, for New York, where she will take in the balance of her cargo for the Exposition, and sail about the middle of March for Havre.

THE Board of Examiners at the Naval Academy, consisting of Commodore F. A. Parker, Capt. James A. Greer, Commanders John A. Howell, A. T. Mahan and Q. A. Batcheller, has been dissolved.

THE Naval Examining Board of which Rear-Admiral Worden was president was dissolved on the 6th March, having gotten through with the case before it. The former board under Vice-Admiral Rowan will be reorganized.

REAR-ADMIRAL S. D. TRENCHARD reports from Santa Cruz, W. I., February 12, the arrival of the *Powhatan* there on the 7th of that month (officers and crew well), and that he would leave for St. Christopher the same day of his despatch—the 12th.

THE *Adams*, Commander Fred. Rodgers, arrived at Panama February 22, having left Callao on the 5th. Experienced light wind and calms. Health of all on board good. The *Adams* awaits at Panama further instructions, which are on the way out, and her next cruise will be to the Samoan Islands.

It has not been determined yet whether it will be necessary to send another vessel to the Exposition or not. The *Constellation* has been suggested. There is believed to be more freight at New York than the *Wyoming* can take, but it is not certain that the excess will justify the detail of another ship.

THE Secretary of the Navy on the 6th of March sent to the Senate a communication from ex-Surg. General James C. Palmer, analysing the evidence of the *Huron* Court of Inquiry, to show that it is not merely a just inference, but an unavoidable conclusion that the navigator took bearings of Currituck Light to the last.

THE friends of Naval Constructor Wilson, of the Kittery Navy-yard, will be glad to learn that he has made a satisfactory defence before the House Naval Committee to the charge that he was receiving red oak knees in the Navy-yard, and using them in rebuilding the *Ticonderoga*. Constructor Wilson swore that not one red oak knee had been used, and in this he was sustained by Wm. F. Fernald, John Neal and Aaron Frost, all prominent shipbuilders, who made a critical examination of the *Ticonderoga*.

THE remains of Edmund Olsen, Chief Engineer of the *Huron*, were brought to New York and interred this week with military honors in Cypress Hills Cemetery, Rev. Mr. Hibben, chaplain of the *Colorado*, officiating. Among the jewelry interred on the beach when the *Huron* was wrecked, was a ring bearing initials which proved to be those of the maiden name of the widow of the deceased officer. Fortunately a stake had been driven over the spot where the body was interred. Chief Engineer Olsen's father went down last week to the beach, and, with the assistance of the gentlemen who placed the stake at the grave, succeeded in identifying the body of his son.

COMMANDER SUMNER, in a report dated at Siam January 14, says the *Monocacy* was visited January 14 by the Regent, who was received with appropriate honors. The Regent expressed himself much

pleased with the vessel and her outfit; examined closely her spar deck and battery, and gave the Consul an order for two Gatling guns. January 19 official cards were received from the English, French, German, Portuguese and Norwegian Consuls. On the 13th, Commander Sumner had a pleasant audience with the King at the Royal Palace. His majesty being on the eve of departure for the interior of the kingdom had to decline visiting the *Monocacy*. Commander Sumner expected to have an audience with the second King, and to call on the Minister of the Interior. Various amusements were in contemplation for the officers of the *Monocacy*; among them a three days' trip to Ayuthia, the former capital of Siam, and a grand ball on the 24th January at the U. S. Consul's. Confidence and good feeling between the Siamese and U. S. governments appeared to be entirely restored.

THE bill introduced by Mr. Crittenden, Feb. 25, (H. R. 3533), fixes the pay of naval officers as follows: Admiral, \$10,000; vice-admiral, \$8,000; rear-admiral \$5,000; commodore, \$4,000; captains, \$3,500; commanders, \$3,000; lieutenant-commanders, \$2,500; after 5 years, \$2,700; lieutenants, \$2,160; after 5 years, \$2,400; masters, \$1,500; after 5 years, \$1,800; ensigns, \$1,200; after 5 years, \$1,400; midshipmen, \$1,000; cadet midshipmen, \$500; mates, \$900; medical and pay directors, and inspectors and chief engineers, having the same rank at sea, \$3,600. Surgeons, paymasters, and chief engineers, \$2,500; second 5 years, \$2,750; third, \$3,250; after 20 years, \$3,500; no increase allowed for assignment as fleet surgeons, paymasters or engineers; past assistant surgeons, engineers, and paymasters, \$1,600; after 5 years, \$1,800; naval constructors, \$2,800; second 5 years, \$3,000; third, \$3,200; fourth, \$3,400; after 20 years, \$3,600; chaplains, \$1,200; after 5 years, \$1,800. Shore duty, and leave or waiting order pay in the same proportion as now, except in the case of admiral, vice admiral, naval and assistant naval constructors. The number of officers to be hereafter as follows: 3 rear-admirals, 6 commodores, 40 captains, 50 commanders, 60 lieutenant-commanders, 150 lieutenants, 40 chief engineers, 73 past assistant engineers, 47 assistant engineers, 25 paymasters, 6 naval constructors and no medical or pay directors, and inspectors, or assistant naval constructors and civil engineers. All volunteer officers to be discharged July 1, 1878.

DESPATCHES have been received by mail by the Secretary of the Navy from Rear-Admiral T. H. Patterson, commanding the Asiatic station, dated on board the *Tennessee*, at Hong Kong, Jan. 30 and Feb. 1. The *Tennessee* reached Hong Kong, Jan. 21, having touched, en route from Japan, at Shanghai, Woosung and Amoy. Rear-Admiral Patterson was waiting the arrival of the *Monongahela*, reported at Bombay, Dec. 30. The *Ashuelot* was at Shanghai. She had been docked, scraped and painted. The *Palos* was also at Shanghai, waiting fair weather for surveying operations. The *Ranger* was at Amoy, but would proceed early in Feb. to Hong Kong, touching at Swatow. The *Monocacy* arrived at Bangkok, Jan. 7, and expected to leave, Jan. 28, for Hong Kong, calling in at Saigon en route. Commander Sumner gives an interesting account of his reception at the capital of Siam. The *Alert* is at Yokohama. As soon as practicable after the arrival of the *Monongahela*, Rear-Admiral Patterson would proceed north, visiting Swatow, Amoy and Shanghai. The health of the squadron is good. Rear-Admiral Verone, commander-in-chief of the French naval force on that station, sailed on the flag-ship *Atalante*, Jan. 31, for France, via Manila and Singapore, accompanied by the corvettes *La Clocheterie* and *La Hugon*. Upon getting under way the *Atalante* saluted the flag of Vice-Admiral Hillyar and that of Rear-Admiral Patterson, which salutes were returned. The *Audacious* and the *Tennessee* cheered the French flag-ship in hearty style as she passed, which was responded to, and the bands played appropriate airs as the departing ships steamed out of the harbor. Admiral Verone expected to meet his relief, Rear-Admiral Durburquois, in the flag-ship *Arneide* (iron-clad) at Singapore, and there transfer his command. *La Clocheterie* also proceeds to France, the *Hugon* remains on the station.

REAR-ADMIRAL GEORGE H. PREBLE, flagship *Omaha*, in a despatch from Punta Arenas, Patagonia, dated Jan. 24, to the Navy Department reports that he sailed from Valparaiso Jan. 3, sighted Cape Tres Montes on the morning of Jan. 17, and entering Messier Channel the same evening, passed English narrows the next morning, and anchored in Port Grappler Jan. 18. In Molyneux Sound, Jan. 19; Mayne Harbor, Jan. 20; Port Churruca, near the southwestern entrance of the Strait of Magellan, Jan. 21, and Fortescue Bay, Jan. 22, which by a singular coincidence was the anniversary of the *Omaha's* anchoring there Jan. 22, 1873, five years previous to her passage out. He reports unusually good weather in the Western Channel, with but little rain. He passed a German vessel of war (ram) in Innocents Channel on the 20th, and on the 22d a French gun boat, both bound to the Pacific. Would leave for Rio Janeiro on Jan. 28. Visits were exchanged with the Governor of the colony, and the usual salute given on his visiting the ship. On the 25th the German corvette *Leipzig*, Captain Paschen, arrived. The following morning she saluted the admiral's flag and her salute returned. The usual



hits were exchanged. The *Leipzig* has thirty midshipmen of the German navy on board and eight Spanish midshipmen under instruction. She is a new ship, recently built at Stettin, and is bound on a cruise of two years with the midshipmen, around the world. The Chilean corvettes *Magellans* and *O'Higgins* are at present stationed there for the protection of the colony. A court martial was in session on shore for the trial of forty of the mutineers of October last. Some ninety men, including the principal ringleaders, succeeded in escaping from the colony. The Governor, however, had reliable information that the principal actors quarrelled as to the route they should escape by, and shot each other until only one is left alive.

## NAVY GAZETTE.

### REGULAR NAVAL SERVICE.

FEB. 27.—Captain Bancroft Gherardi, to hold himself in readiness for the command of the receiving ship *Colorado*, at New York, on the 1st May.

Lieutenant Thomas H. De Blois, as executive of the *Rio Bravo*, at Brownsville, Texas.

Assistant Surgeons R. A. Urquhart, J. S. Bagg, H. Wilcox, H. E. Arms, and T. H. Terrill, to the Naval Hospital, New York, for instruction previous to examination for promotion.

FEB. 28.—Commander F. V. McNair, to command the *Portsmouth*, at New York, on the 5th March.

Lieutenant Uriel Seabree, to the Hydrographic Office, Washington, D. C.

Passed Assistant Paymaster H. T. B. Harris, to duty in charge of stores at Rio de Janeiro per steamer of 14th March from Philadelphia.

Passed Assistant Engineers John W. Gardner, J. W. Hollihan, Wm. A. Windsor, Samuel Gragg, John G. Bromham, John Pemberton, Assistant Engineers George S. Willis, Albert B. Willis and Stacey Potts, to hold themselves in readiness for sea service.

Assistant Paymaster Wm. W. Galt, to duty in the Paymaster's Department on board the receiving ship *Franklin*, at Norfolk, Va.

MARCH 1.—Master Nathan Sargent, to the Navy-yard, Washington, on the 9th March for instruction in ordnance duty.

Ensign Lucien Young, to the *Portsmouth*, at New York.

Pay Director E. C. Doran, to report in person at the Navy Department for instructions in connection with the special duty to be assigned him at the Paris Exposition.

Pay Inspector Caspar Schenck, to the Navy-yard, Mare Island, California, on the 13th March.

Passed Assistant Engineer Geo. W. Stivers, to the torpedo boat *Intrepid*, at New York.

Assistant Engineer Robert G. Denig, to special duty at Chester, Pa.

Boatswain Edward Hughes, to the receiving ship *Franklin*, at Norfolk, Va.

Salimaker Charles H. Jones, to the *Portsmouth*, at New York, on the 5th March.

MARCH 2.—Lieutenant-Commander Richard P. Leary, to hold himself in readiness for sea service.

MARCH 4.—Midshipman James T. Smith, to the *Portsmouth*, at New York.

Passed Assistant Engineer C. F. Nagle, to the Navy-yard, Portsmouth, N. H.

MARCH 5.—Assistant Surgeons C. J. Herndon, Robert Swan and A. A. Austin, to examination for promotion on the 14th March.

### DETACHED.

FEB. 27.—Ensign Lucien Flynn, from the *Rio Bravo* upon the arrival of the *Ossipee*, at the Brazos, and to report for duty on board the latter vessel.

MARCH 2.—Commander N. H. Farquhar, from the command of the *Portsmouth* on the 5th March, and placed on waiting orders.

Lieutenant-Commander A. G. Kellogg, from the Navy-yard, Washington, on the 13th March, and ordered to the Navy-yard, Portsmouth, N. H., on the 15th March.

Lieutenant-Commander B. P. Lamberton, from the Navy-yard, Portsmouth, N. H., on the 15th March, and placed on waiting orders.

Master Charles A. Clark, from the receiving ship *Franklin*, and ordered to the *Portsmouth* on the 6th March.

MARCH 1.—Assistant Surgeon F. H. Terrill, from the Naval Hospital, Chelsea, Mass., and ordered to the Naval Hospital, New York.

Pay Director E. C. Doran, from the Navy-yard, Mare Island, Cal., and ordered to settle accounts.

Passed Assistant Engineer John D. Ford, from duty on the Examining Board, and ordered to report to the Chief of Bureau of Steam Engineering for special duty.

Passed Assistant Engineer George W. Stivers, from the torpedo boat *Intrepid*, and placed on waiting orders.

Boatswain Isaac T. Choate, from the receiving ship *Franklin*, and ordered to the training ship *Saratoga*.

Boatswain Joseph McDonald, from the *Saratoga*, and ordered to the *Portsmouth*, at New York, on the 5th March.

MARCH 4.—Ensign Bradley A. Pike, from the Plymouth and ordered to equipment duty at the Navy-yard, New York.

MARCH 5.—Passed Assistant Surgeon J. G. Ayres has reported his return home, having been detached from the *Ashuelot*, Asiatic Station, on the 5th January, and has been placed on waiting orders.

Paymaster George W. Beaman, from duty as member of Examining Board of Paymasters, and ordered to the *Monongahela*, Asiatic Station, per steamer of April 1 from San Francisco.

Paymaster Charles W. Blamm, from the *Ashuelot*, Asiatic Station, on reporting of relief, and ordered to return home and report arrival.

Passed Assistant Paymaster Curtis H. Thomson, from the *Monongahela* on reporting of relief, and ordered to the *Ashuelot* as the relief of Paymaster Blamm.

### LEAVE OF ABSENCE GRANTED.

To Commodore Charles H. Baldwin for four months from the 15th March, with permission to leave the United States.

### LEAVE EXTENDED.

The leave of Lieutenant-Commander Frederick Pearson, for six months from the 1st March.

### ORDERS MODIFIED.

Passed Assistant Paymaster H. T. B. Harris's orders of the 26th Feb. have been so far modified that he will sail on the steamer *Austrian* which leaves Philadelphia on the 28th instead of the 14th March.

### LIST OF DEATHS.

In the Navy of the United States, which have been reported to the Surgeon-General for the week ending March 6, 1878:

John A. Burke, corporal marines, February 28, Marine Barracks, New York.

Henry Simpson, seaman, March 1, U. S. S. *Constitution*, at Delaware Breakwater.

THE following nominations have been sent to the Senate by the President: *Army*.—Thos. C. H. Smith, of Ohio, to be paymaster; 1st Lieut. Chas. A. Dempsey, 2d Infantry, to be captain. *Navy*.—Commodore Edward T. Nichols, to be rear-admiral; Asst. Engineer Jabez Burchard, to be transferred from the furlough to the retired list.

## A CALIFORNIA INCIDENT.

A true version of a California incident which occurred in 1849, not in 1848.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

SIR: In your issue of the 23d inst. is a communication, which gives an incident of the early days of California. It is a narrative, taken from the autobiography of the Rev. Mr. Ver Mehr, of a murderous assault of a naval boat's crew upon their officer, in the bay of San Francisco, their desertion, capture, trial, and the execution of two of them. There are several inaccuracies in it, one or more of which reflect upon the discipline of the U. S. squadron in those waters, and I have been requested to write a true statement of the facts. As I write over my own signature, the frequency of the first person singular will, I trust, be excused as imperative under the circumstances.

On or about the 11th of September, 1849, I was a passed midshipman on board the U. S. schooner *Ewing*, Lieut. Comd'g McArthur, lying in the bay of San Francisco, about two miles off from the strange collection of frame shanties, tents, and ancient adobes, that then constituted the city of San Francisco. She was a coast survey vessel, officered and manned by and under the discipline of the Navy. Several cruising men-of-war and storeships of the squadron were in port, and the flag of Commodore T. Ap Catesby Jones flew from the line of battle ship *Ohio*. On shore the gold excitement was at its wildest; the prices made the pay of the officers, let alone that of the men, ridiculous; bearded and sunburnt creatures, in roughly fantastic apparel, were daily coming in from the washings, their horny hands thrust into trousers' pockets full of loose gold dust, that literally sprinkled the streets. The temptation was great; the crews would, if they could, have deserted nearly to a man. The extreme exercise of power conferred by naval law and the sharpest vigilance were necessary to prevent this; the muskets of the marines were kept loaded, the watch officers wore their pistols, and the officers in command of boats always backed into the landing, drawn revolver in hand. With these precautions the desertions had been few; the only flagrant case, which happened a short time previous to my affair, having been the pulling on shore, in broad daylight and under fire, of an extemporaneous crew in the *Ohio's* launch.

On the evening in question a number of Army officers and citizens from shore had dined on board the *Ewing*. Between nine and ten o'clock a boat was called away to land them. In place of the very young lad who usually did boat duty, I volunteered to take charge. I remembered afterwards that, by the light of the side lantern, I noticed a look and start of surprise in one or two of the boat's crew. Perhaps they apprehended a more difficult job than they had expected; perhaps it was true what they pleaded on their trial, that they had an especial liking for me, and (to quote the ghastly foregone conclusion in Keats' poem) were a little sorry for their "murdered man." It was a crew of five. The night was one of Egyptian darkness, and the ebb tide ran so strongly that it attracted attention. The log was hove from the *Ewing* and showed four knots. Receiving a caution from Rhind, our executive, not to be caught under the bows of the merchantmen that lay between us and the shore, I shoved off. Backing into a small wharf, where Sansom street now is, a pistol in each hand, I landed my passengers and started to return. When about half way to the nearest merchant vessel, some hundreds of yards from the shore, I put back my pistols and resumed the yoke ropes. In a few moments, the after oarsman, John Black, with a hoarse exclamation, threw his oar out of the rowlock and himself upon me. Struggling to my feet, I found myself clutched by several of the others. Their first effort seemed to be to get possession of my pistols, but very soon one of them (Peter Black, I think) exclaimed: "Damn him, throw him overboard—that's the quickest way!" With this I found my arms free, and seized John Black by his neckerchief, dragging him overboard with me. Twisting it with one hand, I attempted to draw a pistol with the other, but the man was too heavy for me, the rest were striking at me with the oars, and, though an expert swimmer, I had to let go, wholly exhausted and half drowned. I swam off a little way, saw them help Black into the boat and settle into their places, and, with the question, "What will you give us to save your life?" they pulled off. Whether this was a real offer or a taunt, as I made no reply, I can never know. By this time my heavy clothes were saturated and I could just tread water, but I was so mortified and angry that I did not call for help until I heard the sound of their oars grow faint in the distance. Then I noticed that I was fast sweeping past the lights of the town, and for the first time realized in what deadly peril I was. I cried out that I was drowning, I heard shouts and excited noises of people on shore, then the sound of oars, felt myself swallowing a great deal of water, wondered why, and—I know no more.

There was a sense of strangulation—no suffering. Drowning is but a falling to sleep. Nor was there an instantaneous illumination of a whole life, like a landscape by a flash of lightning, of which I have read so much. All that I remember is, for one moment, a keen endeavor to realize the fact that I was to penetrate the mystery of Death, and I could not comprehend it.

After all, I was saved by the darkness of the night. The black water gave out its phosphorescence in fiery relief, and the boatman who rescued me testified that he was guided by it to such an extent that he reached under water for me. I was taken on shore insensible and apparently lifeless. For hours, according to the medical evidence, my condition was desperate. I came to momentary consciousness but to faint away again in convulsions, and it was not until four o'clock in the morning that I could utter the few words necessary to tell what had happened. That I sit here to write this, I owe, under Heaven, to Dr. Augustus

Borvie, of Cal., then of the Navy, and to the other doctors, military and civil, who assisted him in his skillful efforts to restore me to life.

Boats from the *Ohio* and other vessels were promptly sent in pursuit; the *Ewing* proceeded up the bay; my brother and other Army officers started out on horseback. Gen. Peralter F. Smith, at Sonoma, ordered the 3d dragoons into the saddle to scour the mining regions. The whole community of San Francisco, gentle and rude alike, seemed eager to catch my assailants. A reward of \$500 apiece was offered, and that and a description of the deserters was given to the people on board of a hulk lying at the junction of the Sacramento and San Joaquin rivers, in time to effect their capture about thirty-six hours after their escape. When taken on board the *Ewing*, which had anchored in the night near by, and afterwards on board the flag-ship, the prisoners were allowed communication with no one. They repeatedly asked the sentinels: "Is Mr. Gibson dead?" and the stern silence which met the inquiry seems to have confirmed them in their natural belief that I was. When I entered the court room the effect was dramatic. I shall never forget how they sprang to their feet and stared at me as if I had been a ghost.

They were tried on board the sloop-of-war *Warren*, by a full court-martial, composed of thirteen members and two supernumeraries, and sentenced to death. The commodore had in the meantime shifted his flag to the frigate *Savannah*, and the *Ohio* had gone home. A number of distinguished officers were on that court—among the elder, the late Rear-Admiral L. M. Goldborough—among the younger, the late Capt. Catesby Ap R. Jones, of the Confederacy. The sentence, according to military usage, was ordered to be carried into execution in twenty-four hours, but the time was afterwards extended one day. The poor fellows sent to see me, and I was naturally much affected, peculiarly so to find that they all united in exonerating the bow oarsman, a young Irishman about twenty years old. I went at once to the commodore to correct my evidence as to the participation of all, and pleaded for the lives of all, but more especially for this one. But the commodore was inexorable, and said whoever was not for me at such a time was against me.

At the last moment, upon the confession of the two Blacks, that they alone had planned the mutiny, the commodore commuted the sentence of three of them. But, in his eloquent address to the crews of the squadron, he repeated in stronger language what he had said to me, to the effect in substance: "that those who could look on at this cowardly, murderous assault on a young and delicate officer, he held in less respect than the bolder ringleaders, that he gave them their lives as an act of pure mercy, trusting to the sufficiency of the example." John Black was hung on board the *Ewing*, and Peter Black on board the *Savannah*.

The two Blacks bore purser's names, and told the clergymen who attended them their real ones, and I heard that one of them, John Black, was of a good family in Scotland. But they were not brothers—two men could hardly be more unlike—and both of them were in age far beyond their teens. The handsome youth of eighteen is a myth. I understood that one of the dying speeches of the real man, Peter Black, was a regret that he had not killed me.

That the crews were in a state of incipient mutiny, so that these clergymen from shore were called upon to quiet them, is not true. With all respect to these gentlemen, I think that the hanging, deeply as I felt the awful fate of these unhappy men, and the address of Commodore Jones, were the proper and only sedatives. There were no more desertions. Contrary to the inference that one would draw from the communication in your columns, the discipline of that squadron was throughout magnificent. Never was the majesty of the law vindicated amid graver and more unimpaired awe than at that execution. Commodore Thos. Ap Catesby Jones, as is well known, was a man of remarkable force and determination of character. And in no time of war were ever the devotion to duty, steady deportment and sleepless vigilance of officers more severely tried, and I do not like even the implication that any one of them trod the quarter-deck otherwise than proudly and self-reliant.

WILLIAM GIBSON, Commander, U. S. Navy.

Captain Braine's correction of "The California Incident" is gratefully acknowledged by the compiler of that article. It would be well if more of the interesting records of the past could be accurately given by living witnesses, and we wish such might find place in the columns of your paper.

BOSTON, March 2, 1878.

PEACE IN CUBA.—The Government has just received full confirmation of the statement that peace has been concluded with the insurgents and that the terms have been approved by the Madrid government. Dating from the next legislative term Cuba will be represented in the Cortes at Madrid in equal terms with Porto Rico, according to the population of the island. The provincial and municipal laws of Spain, dated October 3, 1877, will be applied to the government and administration of Cuba, as is done in Porto Rico, and the Spanish government will be requested to apply successively to Cuba all other laws promulgated in Spain and to be promulgated in Spain. All slaves of both sexes who were in the files of the insurgents on the 10th of February will be free if they present themselves before the last day of March. If their owners have been loyal they are to be indemnified, otherwise not.

MESSRS. GRIFFIN and Co., of Portsmouth, Eng., have published a work, the "War Ships of Europe," which gives the substance of Chief Engineer King's report, revised and corrected by an English navy architect, who has added valuable notes.



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officers in our Army, "Commissioned" writes to the

N. Y. Times as follows: "I have before me the official

report of the Secretary of War, made to Congress Feb.

1, 1878, giving an abstract of the militia force of the

United States, as required, by section 232, Revised

Statutes, in which the following figures occur: 127

general officers, 1,004 general staff officers, 1,436 regi-

mental, field, and staff officers, 4,957 company officers

—being 7,524 commissioned officers to 95,269 men.

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officers, 395 field officers, 1,747 captains and lieuten-

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missioned officer for every 11 10-100 men."

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THE theory that the United States should trust  
entirely to the stout hearts and the stalwart  
arms of its patriotic citizens for the public defence,  
instead of to the services of a standing Army, is shown  
in the constant drift of our military legislation, from  
the adoption of the Constitution until now. No  
sooner was the war of the Revolution ended than the  
Army was disbanded, by a Congressional resolution  
of Nov. 3, 1783. But the next year the protection  
of the Northwestern frontier called for Congressional  
help, which was grudgingly accorded in the organi-  
zation of a single regiment of 700 men, which was the  
nucleus of the present Army. Oct. 20, 1786, this  
force was increased to 2,040 officers and men, and a  
few years later, March 3, 1795, to a "legion" of 4,800  
enlisted men, with a corps of artilleryists and engi-  
neers. And so, from that time to this, the Army has  
been subjected to the experience of alternate increase  
in prospect of danger and decrease as soon as the  
appearance of danger has passed. We have not ex-  
pended so much less in blood and treasure than other  
nations, upon the public defence, but we have had  
the satisfaction of amusing ourselves with the idea  
that we were not called upon to expend anything.  
We have kept upon the statute books for the past 85  
years provisions which require every citizen between  
the ages of 18 and 45 years to enrol in the militia,  
and to keep himself constantly provided with a good  
musket or firelock, or with a good rifle, a sufficient  
bayonet and belt, two spare flints, a knapsack, shot-  
pouch and powder horn, twenty balls and a quarter  
of a pound of powder (vide R. S., Sections 1625,  
1628, 1632.) And conscious that we have a force  
which now must number nearly four millions of men,  
thus plentifully armed and equipped, we have set  
the world at defiance, while neglecting what "the  
effete despotisms of the old world" in their simplicity  
regard as the very first essentials of military efficiency.

Recently, Congress has turned to these antiquated  
provisions of law to see what can be made of the  
militia force at its disposal, as a substitute for the  
Regular Army. Most wisely they have called into  
their counsels Quartermaster-General MEIGS, whose  
testimony on the subject of the organization of the  
militia of the United States is before us. General  
MEIGS is an accurate man, and he has a very  
clear head. During his forty years of service in the  
Army it is safe to say that he has made as few mis-  
takes as any officer in it, and when it comes to the  
matter of saving money for the Government he  
usually finds the best way of doing it.

The remarks of Gen. MEIGS are made in reply to a  
resolution of the Senate of December 13, 1877, for  
"further information in relation to the militia of the  
United States." He estimates the total number of

citizens of the age and condition to be included in  
the militia of the United States, at about 7,500,000,  
but that about 50 per cent. of this number would be  
exempt, for various causes, and that the number to  
be enrolled, organized and provided with arms and  
equipments would be, say, 3,750,000. Now, assum-  
ing this number of men to be organized into com-  
panies and regiments, and that they were to go to  
their several places of rendezvous for instruction for  
a certain number of days in each year, the following  
estimate is made by the General of the cost:

|  |               |
|--|---------------|
| 1st. Clothing—one suit for each man of the rank<br>and file.....   | \$123,891,000 |
| 2d. Camp and garrison equipage.....  | 23,233,154    |
| NOTE.—Clothing, an annual expense. Equipage,<br>if cared for by the U. S. would last say five years.   |               |
| 3d. Transportation of arms, equipments and stores,<br>and for storing and preserving property in the<br>intervals between field exercises.....                                   | 30,468,000    |
| 4th. Transportation of the men to the rendezvous<br>and return.....  | 35,500,748    |
| 5th. Incidental expenses, hire of clerks, agents, etc.   | 408,840       |
| 6th. Barracks and quarters: For rent of grounds,<br>compensation to proprietors for crops destroyed<br>and property injured, by the occupation of com-<br>pany grounds, etc..... | 15,000,000    |
| 7th. Forage and straw.....   | 6,394,481     |

The sum of these items is.....\$245,006,233

This, it must be remembered, is only the cost to  
the Quartermaster's Department. The arms and  
Ordnance stores are not included in this estimate.  
"Thus," says Gen. MEIGS, "the training of all the  
militia now ordered by law to be enrolled and  
trained, will, if executed, cost this amount to the  
people who pay the taxes."

As the General was invited to offer suggestions for  
the improvement of the laws on this subject he does  
so, and he gives it as his opinion that with our 45-  
000,000 of people, actively engaged in the business  
of earning a living for themselves and families, and  
in improving their condition in life, and imbued with  
the ideas of personal liberty and freedom from com-  
pulsory service, which prevail in the United States,  
all attempts in time of peace to enforce general  
organization and training of the militia will prove  
fruitless. He says the true militia of the United  
States is the volunteer force, and that will not re-  
spond to calls for mere training, but will always re-  
spond to the call of their country when threatened  
by foreign or domestic enemies. The only sure  
provisions, under existing conditions, which the gen-  
eral Government can make for training the militia are  
the maintenance of National Military Schools; the  
maintenance of a very fully officered Army, sufficient  
for the protection of the frontier against savages, and  
for the care and preservation of its sea coast defences;  
the encouragement of military instruction in volun-  
teer organizations, and in the public institutions of  
learning throughout the country, by aiding the latter  
by the supply of professors and teachers of military  
art and science therein. By these means a body of  
men in every generation can be instructed and pre-  
pared, and can be continued, able to officer and train  
and discipline quickly the rank and file of the large  
armies which domestic or foreign conflict must in  
these days call into the field.

General MEIGS thinks that against domestic insur-  
rection the training of the whole nation as militia  
offers no guarantee; that such insurrections will not  
be serious or dangerous unless a large section of the  
people or of the country unites in them. Then the  
advantages of military training, would, on such a  
system, be equal with both sides, and the trained  
men and officers would follow their respective  
parties. And it follows that it is only by a Regular  
Army, maintained by the general Government that  
the peace of the country can be protected in case of  
any wide spread rising. General MEIGS thinks that  
if the project to organize and train a militia is ever  
carried into execution by the general Government, it  
will be found necessary to limit the training to men  
who, being able-bodied, have just reached the mili-  
tary age. All the able-bodied men between 18 and  
45 it is impossible to call out and support during any  
period of time in which they could acquire any use-  
ful military skill. But all those who in any one  
calendar year attain the age of 21 may be called into  
the field of exercise. Of such there are this year in  
the United States 420,000 men, and nearly or quite  
half of this number are capable of undergoing the  
fatigues of military life. This would give a force of  
say 220,000 men. Suppose the training to be en-  
forced on each man for two successive years; the  
militia force under pay for a few weeks in each year  
would then be 440,000 men, and if service exercise



was enforced for three successive years, it would be 660,000 men.

Reducing the cost of the whole now legal and constitutional militia in proportion to the reduced force herein supposed, the cost would be in a single year for 230,000 men:

|                                 |             |
|---------------------------------|-------------|
| For clothing.....               | \$7,575,941 |
| Camp and garrison equipage..... | 1,266,647   |
| For transportation.....         | 3,890,519   |
| For incidental expenses.....    | 34,019      |
| For barracks and quarters.....  | 892,933     |
| For regular supplies.....       | 387,941     |

Total cost of inaugurating the system so far as it relates to the Quartermaster's Dept. thereof.....\$14,418,030  
Total cost of supplying the camp and garrison equipage, to last five years on an average.....\$1,366,647  
The total cost of a two years' service (440,000 men).....\$28,836,060  
The total cost of a three years' service (660,000 men).....\$43,254,090

In this nothing is said of the pay of militia, which remains for the Pay Department to consider. Gen. Miles calls attention to the fact that the bringing of 3,750,000 men in the prime of life into the field would necessitate a loss of at least \$1 each for each day thus employed, and this would amount to \$150,000,000, more of annual cost.

Such is the cost of carrying out the laws already upon the Statute book for organizing and training the militia. To make the Army the most popular institution in the country, it is only necessary to undertake to enforce them. In case the attempt is made we recommend the revival of the office of Provost Marshal General with Mr. BANNING as the incumbent of the office.

#### ARMY PAY.

It would be an error to say that our Army is ill paid, as it would also be both an error and a wrong to reduce the present pay, which, both for officers and men, is just, and yet not more than just. In almost any European service with which ours could at all be compared, the conditions of expense in a peace establishment are well known. To begin with, a peace establishment in Europe means peace, and not only peace, but a good degree of stability and routine. With us, there is no such thing as a peace establishment. We loosely use that term, but it only means a regular establishment as contrasted with a volunteer—or, more accurately still, the establishment of to-day as contrasted with that of the Civil War. There is no peace time for our Army; not a year passes without war. The grass rarely comes in spring without Indian hostilities, larger or less, coming with it, while often they are carried on in the dead of winter, with the thermometer below zero.

European service, save in time of foreign war, which means less than half the time, is performed in civilized communities, where food and clothing, transportation, and all the comforts as well as necessities of life are to be had at the low price to which the competition of trade carries them, while our field service is largely on distant frontiers, where whatever is bought must be bought at a high price. Congressmen seem to regard Army officers, in their estimates, as a priesthood of Mars, bound by a vow of celibacy; yet in our service, as in all others, officers have families, and must provide for their support.

Above all, our Army is so small, in comparison with the armies of foreign countries, and has so large a country to protect, that it is kept flying forth and back, over thousands of miles, to the great expense of officers. For example, during the year ending June 30, 1876, the 7th Cavalry moved from the Gulf of Mexico to Dakota, 2,687 miles; the 8th, from Missouri to Texas, 1,148 miles; the 9th, from Texas to Missouri, 993 miles; the 8d Artillery, from the South and from the Gulf, northward, 987 and 1,622 miles; the 4th, interchanging, 1,400 miles; the 5th, 1,780 miles; the 11th Infantry, 859 miles; the 12th, 2,500 miles; the 21st, 892 miles. This is one year's record. Other years show like transfers of other regiments. Our little Army, ever on the move, at much expense to officers, obviously cannot be compared evenly, as to pay, with the comparatively fixed armies of France, Germany, Austria and Italy. And these considerations are independent of the well known difference in the purchasing power of money here and there.

WHILE testifying before the House Military Committee, last week, Adjutant-General Townsend gave his opinion on a subject much mooted and of much importance in the Army. Does volunteer service count as part of an officer's term of service, so as to

procure him seniority for promotion? The law of March 2, 1867, fixing the rights of those who have served in the volunteer Army, has often been cited for the affirmative of this question. According to General Townsend, the law for counting volunteer service related only to the special class of cases where officers, in the consolidation of regiments, were transferred from one regiment to another; hence it does not apply to ordinary promotion. Still, under that law a man might get rank entitling him to higher pay and allowances, when it would not allow him seniority for promotion.

Again, does service as a soldier and a non-commissioned officer count in favor of an officer appointed from the Army? This the Adjutant-General calls a nice question, never yet finally decided, though the present Attorney-General has expressed the opinion that the term of an enlisted man does not count, and such is General Townsend's view. He suggests also that the President's warrant should be held superior to the enlisted man's voluntary contract, and that this itself would give the cadet, graduated, the precedence over the enlisted man. This is, however, a question of law and not of opinion.

BEYOND the fact that a treaty of peace has been positively signed by Russia and Turkey at San Stefano, there is little new from the East. But that fact is much, and quite justifies the congratulations sent by Grand Duke Nicholas to the Czar, and the illumination at St. Petersburg. For, so adroitly have the terms been drawn, and so much have Russia's reported claims been toned down, that it is difficult to see how either England or Austria can intervene to upset the treaty. The exact terms of the peace are still largely guesswork; but it is known that the money indemnity is comparatively small, and that the territory exacted is all in Armenia, where it includes Batoum, Ardahan, Kars and Bayazid, but not Ezeroum and Trebizond. There is no claim for the Egyptian tribute or the Turkish fleet, and the Straits are to be free for merchant vessels in peace or war; and the matter of Bessarabia is left open.

If these be the leading terms of Peace, England will have, comparatively, little ground for war. Already, in fact, the *Pera* correspondent of the *London Times*, with the cheeriness of Mark Tapley, shows that all Turkey's territorial losses are to be gains, and that the Turks will create "a new Ottoman Power, ten times stronger than before." This recalls to us some of the famous "blessings in disguise" of our own war. At any rate, the upshot of the treaty is that the prospects of European peace are brighter than a week ago, and we considered them by no means dark then.

The present relations of Turkey and Russia are indicated by the fact that the Czar has received the following telegram from the Sultan:

"CONSTANTINOPLE, March 3, 1878.

"On the occasion of the anniversary of your Majesty's accession to the throne, I offer my congratulations, with the desire of renewing our friendly relations."

The Czar sent the following reply:

"ST. PETERSBURG, March 3, 1878.

"I thank your Majesty for your congratulations, which I received simultaneously with the news of the signature of peace. I perceive in this coincidence a presage of good and lasting relations between us."

THE *Washington Post*, a Democratic organ, is making a business of interviewing General Sherman. We publish elsewhere an account of one interview. In another, General Sherman paid his respects to Mr. Banning as follows. Speaking generally in regard to the provisions of Mr. Banning's bill for the reorganization of the Army, General Sherman is represented as having said: "I regard it as a measure for the disorganization of the Army, and I also think that it comes with very bad grace from General Banning. On July 24, 1876, Congress created a commission, consisting of two Senators, two Representatives, and two Army officers, with the Secretary of War as a member ex-officio. This Commission was created for the purpose of examining the whole subject of Army legislation, and was to devise measures for the reorganization and reformation of the Army. The Commission met pursuant to that law, and every member of it, I contend, fulfilled his whole duty, except Mr. Banning, who neither presented a written nor a verbal communication to that Commission, and who attended but one, or, at most, but two of the many meetings of the Commission. His want of co-operation was one, if not the chief, cause why the Commission could not fulfill its duties. Every other member labored to the

end called for by the act of Congress; so I think, as I have said before, that it comes with ill grace from Mr. Banning to submit a bill to disorganize the Army instead of aiding the other members to do what they were commanded to do by an act of Congress—to report a bill to reorganize and reform the Army of the United States."

In regard to the size of the staff, General Sherman said: "The staff is too large for the existing Army, but ever since Washington's time the policy has been to maintain a staff large enough to admit of doubling, trebling, or quadrupling the establishment at the very shortest possible notice, counting on increasing the fighting force of volunteer regiments, as was done in the Florida war, the Mexican, and the Civil wars. The Army appears to the people too heavy, because they are ignorant of the necessities of the Service. Any law of Congress touching the organization of the Army or the pay which encourages officers to remain on duty in the field, in preference to remaining on staff or fancy duty in the East, will meet my hearty approval and sanction."

As to allowances, the General said:

It is well known that officers living in public quarters in contact with troops are generally better off than their neighbors, but those who live in cities in hired quarters and have families to educate are usually in the most straitened circumstances, and have to resort to all manner of shifts to make both ends meet. Properly they occupy a high social position, which imposes upon them unavoidable expenses, and this is a feature that should always be taken into consideration when estimating their income and outgo. You know as well as I, that the unwritten laws of society are more arbitrary than the statute law, and he who from the nature of his calling is compelled to go into society must bear all of the burdens, and fulfil all the duties of his station, or be branded as a niggard. Almost all our troubles grow out of the fact that we have families, and Congress ought either to pay officers enough to support their families, or forbid them to marry.

THE Military Committee of the House continues its examination of staff officers, and up to this time they have devoted their attention principally to the subject of allowances, inquiring curiously into the propriety of the allowances for quarters and fuel, forage, etc. They find for example that a surgeon of the Army who has the assimilated rank of a major, if he is stationed in Washington, receives a greater pay than a colonel who commands his regiment on the frontier. Nearly all of the officers of our Engineer Corps, Quartermaster's, Commissary, and Ordnance Departments, and a goodly number of the Medical Department live in cities where the allowance for quarters, fuel, etc., is given. The officers of the line are furnished with these allowances in kind, it is true, to a certain extent, etc., but on the frontier officers and men protect themselves with such rude huts as they can construct themselves, and if they choose to provide themselves with the ordinary comforts of a house they can do so only at an enormous expense. And then the first change of station involves them in just about as much loss as a respectable fire would make. "Two moves are equal to a fire" is literally true, and the average line officer will move fifty times in thirty years of service.

DURING the past summer the Government resumed the survey of the important silver mines on the Comstock Lode, in Nevada, a work which has been interrupted for seven or eight years. It is now in charge of Lieut. Geo. M. Wheeler, Corps of Engineers U. S. A., the execution of the survey being intrusted to Prof. John A. Church, mining engineer, of Columbus, Ohio. That gentleman reports that the mines never presented more interesting or remarkable conditions. They are the hottest in the world, the temperature of the rock when freshly penetrated being as high as 180 deg. to 140 deg. Fahrenheit, as an average. In some localities in the lode the rock temperature rises much higher than this, and must be 150 deg. to 160 deg. Fahrenheit. The temperature of the air varies in new drifts from about 106 deg. to 116 deg. Fahrenheit. The phenomena observed have led Prof. Church to reject the usual explanation of the heat; encountered in volcanic rocks, which is that it is the last remnant of the volcanic action. He seeks the source of the heat in atmospheric action upon the materials of the rock. It is believed that no other explanation will account for the continued flow of heat for years from rock surfaces that are constantly cooled by strong currents of air. This question of heat is one of the most important presented by the mines, for if it is going to increase steadily to above the boiling temperature as the older theories would indicate, and at the rate of 40 degrees for each one thousand feet of depth, which is about the rate of increase for the last thousand feet, the miners will evidently at no distant day reach a point where labor will be impossible. In fact, two thousand feet more of depth would bring the workmen to rock as hot as boiling water, and work would have to stop long before. There is, however, no reason for expecting the cessation of work on the mines in that distance. The sys-



tem of ventilation employed in the mines, though right in principle, is not carried out to its fullest extent, and can be relied upon to mitigate the exhaustion of work at greater depths.

The extraction of gold and silver continues to be between two and a half and three millions a month from the two mines now taking out ore. This great yield is due partly to the richness of the ore and partly to the extraordinary vigor with which the mines are worked. The bullion shipped weighs about forty tons a month, and is worth in the neighborhood of \$33 a pound.

Preparations are making to sink the mines to greater depths by means of a line of new shafts placed about half a mile east of the present line, and as the vein dips to the east, these new shafts will intersect it at the depth of about half a mile.

There is no reason to anticipate exhaustion of the great lode, in spite of the fact that four or five years have passed since the discovery of a new ore body of importance. In every respect the mines are of the most remarkable character, and the action of the Government in submitting them to a second thorough examination has received the commendation of the miners as well as scientific men.

THE plan introduced into Congress by Mr. Southard, of Ohio, for a triple President, is a good illustration of the blind modern mania which seeks to cripple executive force. The scheme, not fathered by Mr. Southard, but introduced "by request," proposes to have the Presidency hereafter consist of a triumvirate—one member to be taken from the [Eastern and Middle States, one from the Western, and one from the Southern. There are various other wise details as to the length of term and the salary, but the great point is to make the President "triplets." This proposition, which of course will fall stillborn, might serve some good purpose if it should set people to thinking of the nature of executive force in a nation, and the need of its being strengthened rather than weakened in our own. Visionaries who are for abolishing the Presidency, or for neutralizing it by some preposterous change, are commonly also in favor of abolishing the Army and the Navy, as implements of autocratic sway. Any intelligent man, not a slave to party or prejudice, who once clearly sees the true function of executive power, will not afterwards be found among those who are cudgelling their brains for devices to overthrow it. All history shows that the destruction of a competent executive force is usually followed by the substitution of a tyranny. Under the Southard scheme, the abolition of executive unity would not bring a decrease of Presidential control in affairs, but the reverse. Artemus Ward represented Brigham Young as a "very much married" man; under a triplex Presidency we should be a nation very much presided over.

WHATEVER may be the fact as to the present movements of Sitting Bull, it is certainly the very general impression of our Army officers in the Sioux country, that they will have their hands full the coming summer; that is, if representative Banning, with his little bill, does not muster them all out and leave the field clear for Sitting Bull and his allies. A letter to the *Helena* (M. T.) *Weekly* from Fort Benton, Feb. 3, says: "The Sioux are also reported to have made a treaty of alliance with some of the Blackfeet, Sarcees, Crees, and Assinaboines chiefs, for the purpose of waging war upon the white settlers this side of the line. The Sioux Indians all talk boastfully and claim that they are not afraid to engage in war, as they are better prepared than they have ever before been, and if the other tribes help them will have no difficulty in whipping the soldiers." The same paper says: "It is not probable that Sitting Bull and his camp have crossed the line, but it is evident that some of his restless young braves occasionally cross and mix with the other tribes. It is also evident that many of the Sioux who escaped from the soldiers escorting them from the Red Cloud and Spotted Tail Agencies, travelled North and are now among the turbulent spirits near the border. Concentrated in the near vicinity of Milk River are a large number of Indians belonging to various tribes. These Indians have been outlawed from, or at least are not under the direct control of their head men, and are liable at any moment to unite with hostile bands and take the war path."

THE delegations in Washington representing the Cherokee, Creek, Seminole, Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations of the Indian Territory, have presented a memorial to Congress in opposition to the contemplated transfer of the Indian Bureau from the Interior to the War Department, as proposed in House Bill No. 959. They declare that the experiment was tried for

half a century and abandoned as a failure, resulting to the Indians in "loss of life, funds and personal property," in the enforced removal of the Creeks, Seminoles, Cherokees, Choctaws and Chickasaws. "The Christian sentiment of the country," the memorial says, "is overwhelmingly against the proposed 'transfer.' The moral sentiment of Christendom is against it. The deliberate judgment of your ablest military chieftains, jurists and statesmen, condemns it as unwise, unless it be your policy to launch upon a series of wars of extermination. To admit that there is more wisdom, integrity and efficiency in your little Army of 25,000 souls, rank and file, than in your 40,000,000 of civilians, is a sad, and, we think, unjust reflection upon the people of this great Government. To claim that the military are better paymasters and accountants in the handling of Indian funds, and therefore ought to control all Indian interests, is not sustained by facts nor by the records of the War Office antedating the transfer in 1849, when it was permissible to keep no accounts whatever of certain Indian moneys received and disbursed, or to keep such accounts so loosely that neither the head of the office nor any of his subordinates could make an intelligent statement of the same when called upon so to do." Whatever may be said as to the facts, the memorial certainly does credit to the skill as a writer of the Indian (?) who prepared it for signatures. He must be "a heap" literary red skin.

WE publish under the proper heading an interesting obituary notice of Mrs. Julia Whistler, a centenarian, who has survived for fourteen years her husband, Col. Whistler, who died during the third year of our late war at the ripe age of 83. Her son, Gen. Whistler, has been now 31 years in the Army, and several of her grandsons are in the military service, while of her four daughters two are the widows of officers. Mrs. Whistler was with her husband at Hull's surrender, and her life covers nearly the whole period of our history as a nation.

THE U. S. Supreme Court, in the case of Lieutenant John Morrison, of which we this week publish a report, decides that the additional compensation which the law gives an Act. A. C. S. is not, in the case of a quartermaster performing that service, pay for a second staff appointment. We are indebted for a copy of the decision to Messrs. Paine and Grafton, the attorneys who have conducted the case to a successful termination.

LIEUT. E. P. TURNER, 10th Cavalry, has been testifying before the House Military Committee to the effect that the raids across the Rio Grande are made solely by Indians, and that the Mexican citizens were not engaged in depredations on the border. He related several instances of depredation on the Mexican side by Americans. He said that during the recent absence of Col. Shafter to testify before the Investigating Committee, an American scout crossed over into Mexico, killed a man, and brought the body into Texas in order to secure a reward of \$50 offered by the local authorities of a town on the Texas side of the Rio Grande for the person of the murdered man.

A CROWDED meeting of the *élite* of the Russian navy was held at Cronstadt, Feb. 4, to hear a discussion on "Protection Against Torpedoes" at the room of the newly-established Torpedo Society. A paper was first read on "Nets as a Means of Defence" by Lieutenant Tveretinoff, one of the leading professors of the Cronstadt Torpedo Corps. He favored a net apparatus, together with the extensive employment of dependent chains and electric lights while the vessel was in port. Admiral Popoff, the next speaker, said that the idea of the Grand Duke Constantine was the employment of some sort of "crinoline" arrangement. Experiments with an apparatus of this nature were now being carried on on board the circular iron-clads in the Black Sea. A long discussion on the "net" theory then followed, and the proposal of Lieutenant Tveretinoff was severely criticised. "However," says the correspondent of the *Army and Navy Gazette*, "no alternative scheme was proposed by the Russian admirals present, nor yet were any remarks made upon the Grand Duke Constantine's idea, owing, no doubt, to the unpleasant result that would have inevitably attended the temerity of any such criticism unless the officer was too high in rank to care for the displeasure of the Lord High Admiral of Russia. Privately, the officers are opposed to the crinoline scheme, which is known to have owed its origin to Admiral Popoff himself. But the Admiral is all-powerful with the Grand Duke, and so Russia will be saddled with some more hobbies as expensive and as useless as the famous Popoffkas."

#### RECEIPTS FOR THE NAST TESTIMONIAL.

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| Officers and men of 14th Infantry, at Bannocks Agency...                          | \$17 25  |
| Lieut. E. Crawford, U. S. A.....  | 1 00     |
| Two officers and men of Co. E, 8th Infantry.....                                  | 5 50     |
| Headquarters and band of 15th Infantry, and Companies D and K, 15th Infantry..... | 26 25    |
| Officers at Presidio, San Francisco, Cal.....                                     | 3 25     |
| Previously acknowledged.....  | \$368 39 |
| Total receipts.....   | \$420 64 |

## CORRESPONDENCE.

The Editor of the *ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL* does not hold himself responsible for individual expressions of opinion in communications published under this head. His purpose is to allow the largest freedom of discussion consistent with propriety and good feeling.

### A PREVENTIVE FOR DESERTION.

To the Editor of the *Army and Navy Journal*:

SIR: Would it not be well for some member of Congress, who takes an interest in military affairs, to introduce a bill to the effect that a soldier, after having served one or two years of his enlistment, might have the privilege of buying his discharge? A bill of this kind would greatly reduce the number of desertions. For instance, if a man did not like the Service and he could buy his discharge, say for \$100, he would not desert because he would settle down without fear, which he could not do if he deserted, and it would not cost the Government half so much for capturing and trying deserters. We would have fewer tramps, fewer convicts, and a better Army, and besides that, a man could re-enlist, which he can never do after deserting. S.

ALCATRAZ ISLAND, CAL., February 17, 1878.

### THE HENRY WILSON MONUMENT.

To the Editor of the *Army and Navy Journal*:

SIR: It has been proposed to erect a suitable monument to the memory of the late Henry Wilson. To accomplish such a project the enlisted men of the Army have been solicited to contribute a fund to that end, but so far little has been done. If each enlisted man would contribute but a trifle every six months, in a few years a respectable fund would be accumulated. The memory of the late Henry Wilson should be cherished in the mind of every soldier—he was the supporter of his claims, the protector of his rights and defender of his cause. He was fearless in opposing hostile legislation affecting the welfare of the soldier, and amidst storms of opposition carried through and obtained important measures advantageous to the enlisted man. Let not the memory of him so noble, so great, so pure in motive, be forgotten. Let us hasten to give homage at the tomb of our great and unbiased advocate, and hope for the speedy erection of a monument worthy and befitting the illustrious dead.

PATRICK COYNE, Hospital Steward U. S. A.  
MCPHERSON BARRACKS, Atlanta, Ga.

### RETIRED OFFICERS.

To the Editor of the *Army and Navy Journal*:

SIR: Should the bill introduced by Mr. Willis pass, all line officers on the retired list of the Navy who have not seen twenty years of sea service, and all staff officers who have not seen fourteen years of sea service, will have their pay reduced from three-quarters of their sea pay to one-half. Why should not those officers who have been disabled in the line of duty have their three-quarters also? Is it because they have been so unfortunate as to be crippled before they had seen that amount of service, that their pay should be reduced? Is it not offering a premium to officers to shirk from danger, and to avoid such duty as might expose them to sickness? The saving to the Government by the passage of this bill would be small, as the officers who have seen the necessary sea service to entitle them to the three-quarters pay are of course officers of high rank, whose salaries are large, while many of those who have been disabled in the line of duty, and in consequence have not been able to see twenty, or even fourteen years of sea service have small salaries, as they get only the pay of their rank when retired.

Should these small salaries be reduced, the amount saved would be but little, while the distress caused by it would be great. The bill of Senator Eaton of Feb. 11th recommends the employment of retired officers of the Army and Navy in the civil service. Should this bill pass it would benefit the officers as well as the Government, for all officers who desired it could have employment on full pay, while the Government would save by it ten times the amount that it could by reducing the salaries of part of them and leaving them unemployed.

The office of inspector of hulls and boilers of steamboats would probably give employment to all the engineers on the retired list of the Navy who desired it, also to many officers of the line, and few men are better qualified to do that duty.

A RETIRED OFFICER.

### THE BANNING BILL.

To the Editor of the *Army and Navy Journal*:

SIR: The bill before Congress strikes at the vitality of the Army. An Army is a latent power of Government, to be used only when the ordinary law force is incapable. Its purpose is to protect against foreign or domestic combinations. It should be commensurate with the "interest at stake" or to "insure against danger." It should be cultivated at the minimum expense for a maximum elasticity. Its parts should be so adjusted that in time of peace all the prime elements will keep in advance of the times, so as to expand in time of war like gunpowder at the moment of necessity. Generals and line officers may be called the head, staff officers the heart or motive power, the rank and file the bones and muscles. These elements must be proportioned when acting, but in time of peace the head and heart remains in vital vigor, whilst the bone and sinew may be limited to the actual force to be overcome from day to day, being always at hand to expand without much tuition.

The wisdom of legislation is to establish the exact amount of brain and heart in due proportion to the



"interest at stake" and "danger to be avoided," and not, as is proposed, to regulate the brain and heart by the amount of bone and muscle required to overcome the actual opposing force from day to day. This leaves no latent power in reserve for emergency of "interest at stake" or "danger to be avoided." The battle of Dorking would end the Government.

Military legislation must be based upon science and the study and experience of the advanced military minds of the age. The mechanism of the finest and most advanced scientific meter should be the model of its proportions—harmonious from centre to circumference, so that when adjusted to its members in emergency, the whole will move to certain success without distracting the nation from its equipoise. Will the tinkering of unscientific artisans produce this adjustable instrument, even if patriotic and honest in their purpose?

The curtailment of cost is often the worst economy. Doubtless thirty-eight States could furnish seventy-six Senators at two dollars per diem, and at that rate, what a reduction of cost would not be effected in the House of Representatives? Who shall say in this Democratic Republic that every man is not capable to legislate? Each is a sovereign and entitled to a seat by the terms of the Constitution. But an Army is not a Republic, but an oligarchy, and, were it not a "necessary evil," should not be tolerated in a free country; being an evil it should not be treated to rotation in office or the democratic indulgences of legislation. It is an evil instrument adjusted for such use as will make the Republic safe from other evil instruments, and respected at home and abroad—a sword wielded by the people. Let it be a perfect machine, molded and adjusted by the most scientific and skillful military minds the nation can produce, and when molded and adjusted kept so by advanced science.

Let Congress authorize the President to institute a commission to consist of statesmen, scientists and military men out of the Service, recognized by the world. This commission to visit the best organized armies and our own, and compare adaptability to our Service and people, and when the subject is exhausted, make their report and frame a bill to be laid before Congress for such an organization from beginning to end as this nation and country requires. DEMOCRACY.

#### THE CAVALRY TACTICS.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

SIR: I had the honor to communicate for your JOURNAL for June 27 and July 4, 1874, some trenchant criticisms of the tactics which just then had been bestowed, something like a "surprise party," upon the cavalry arm.

If that review of the new system had been merely the expression of opinions, however experienced, it would naturally have evoked some answers in your department of correspondence, offering and inviting free discussion of subjects of interest. But as charges were accompanied by specifications, references and quotations freely made, to give certainty of proof of their accuracy and justice, the extraordinary fact that no answer, no defence has ever appeared there, is logical evidence that none could be made; and I must make the acknowledgment that if the tactics has admirers, they are men of discretion.

Supporters of the system aver that it is generally (silently) approved, complaints are not made, etc. Now, if this last be true, it may be explained without favor to the tactics. Of about 410 officers of cavalry on the register of 1877, 320, including twenty-one field officers, had been appointed in, or transferred to, the cavalry since the war.

The Army grumbles; but seldom indeed are volunteers found for what they seem to consider the forlorn hope of written appeal to the remote, the mysteriously powerful sources of authority and discipline. The cavalry officers are isolated—almost lost in our colossal territory. Engaged constantly against Indians in mountains, amongst lava rocks, in "bad lands," they invent methods of fighting for the occasion; "they regard horses," as one writes me, "of no other value than to carry an infantry soldier (armed with a short rifle, and encumbered with a sabre and pistol, and embarrassed with a horse to take care of), to the point where he can get down and fight on foot. These people never had, and can never acquire the cavalry spirit."

Moreover, only the single rank part of the system is used. But there the other part remains a stumbling block and fence, especially to the volunteers who, in the day of trouble, may be called upon to digest the whole complication—if that were only possible!

These remarks have occasion now, in having received letters—one lately—from cavalry field officers, of the greatest and most distinguished services. One writes: "Any thing which can be done to give us your Tactics instead of those we have, would be most welcome." (He alludes to an unprinted work.) From another, I quote as follows:

January, 1878.

During last winter I was instructor of the officers' tactical class, and during the whole summer commanded a battalion varying from four to six troops of the regiment in the field operations against the Sioux and Nez Percés. These needs of looking more sharply into the book (New Cavalry Tactics), than ever before, have increased my contempt for it to a degree that leaves me with no patience to criticise it. How any set of men who pretended to know any thing of either the English language, or of the principles of tactics, could be other than ashamed of such crude errors and exhibitions of ignorance as are shown wherever one looks into it, passes my comprehension. To say nothing of such glaring absurdities as the "by the right of companies to the rear into column," which is, even less possible in practice than in theory, the book is full of errors of omission as well as commission. The skirmish drill is as bad as possible, and this, with us, is vital. The instructions in horsemanship and the breaking and training of horses, are an exhibition of the ignorance of the best practice which would disgrace an infantry adjutant. The trumpet calls are changed without reason, and always for the worse. The instructions for garrison and field service are hardly worthy of the knowledge of a militiaman. And in short the book has one merit only: that a considerable portion of its movements and all its valuable ideas have been

stolen bodily from your work, and spoiled by the apprentices who undertook to use them. Col. — says, without hesitation, that it (my new Tactics), is by far the best system of tactics he ever saw, and I readily believe it. . . .

One thing is beyond question: the literary character of the book (New Cavalry Tactics), is atrocious. Double meanings without end, explanations that don't explain, etc., etc., until the new comer fairly thinks that the military meanings and methods are always to be determined by taking any except the ones commonly understood by the same words.

This gives a bad prospect for the acquisition of cavalry knowledge and practice by volunteers when again our country shall require their service.

P. ST. GEO. COOKE.

DETROIT, February, 1878.

#### HINTS FOR THE LINE.—NO. VII.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

SIR: Promotion among officers of the Line should be by seniority up to the grade of colonel. Junior generals should be selected from the colonels, not by examining boards, but for ability shown in the field. Great care should be taken in selecting, as an Army may lose a good colonel and gain an incompetent general. Colonels should be placed on temporary duty as junior generals, and junior generals as senior generals, by roster, in order that the authorities may justly select for promotion to the next grade.

The examination of officers is said to be less severe in the British army than in any except, of course, that of the United States (which has none). Sub-lieutenants are examined in the field and on paper before promotion to 1st lieutenants, upon the following subjects:

1. Queen's regulations and orders for the army, regimental interior economy, accounts, and correspondence.
2. Military law.
3. The elements of tactics.
4. Field fortifications and the elements of permanent fortification.
5. Military topography and reconnaissance.
6. Riding.

1st lieutenants before they are eligible for promotion to the rank of captain, will be required to pass an examination in the following subjects:

1. The evolutions of a regiment of cavalry or a battalion (as the case may be.)
2. The charge of a troop or company and detachment in every position, musketry instruction, orderly room work, requisitions, returns, accounts, and correspondence.
3. Queen's regulations.
4. Military law.
5. The elements of tactics.
6. Field fortifications and the elements of permanent fortifications.
7. Military topography and reconnaissance.

Lieutenants will be required to pass the above examination within five years from the date of their commissions as 1st lieutenants, and if they fail to do so they will be removed from the army.

The Staff College is open to officers of all arms of the service. Twenty officers are selected yearly by competitive examination, who remain two years at the college. At the completion of the college course of instruction a final examination is made (which is also open to officers of all branches of the service), in the following subjects:

1. Fortifications, field engineering, and artillery.
2. Military drawing and surveying, etc.
3. Reconnaissance.
4. Military art, history and geography.
5. Military administration and law.
6. French, German or Hindustani.
7. Riding.

Officers who pass the Staff examination are assigned to duty with corps other than their own; that is, an infantry officer is assigned to cavalry duty and then to artillery, in order that he may be familiar with the duties of each arm. Then is placed on acting staff duty.

"As it is essential for the efficient performance of their duties, that staff officers should be acquainted with the tone and feelings of the officers of all branches, no officer will be permitted to live out of mess while attached to a regiment for instruction."

Officers who appear for examination for staff detail, must be examined physically, to ascertain if they possess the health and strength to bear the hard work required of a staff officer.

LINE.

VETERANS OF MEXICO.—The Mexican Veterans held their annual meeting in Baltimore Feb. 23. Col. Jas. H. Ruddock, President of the Maryland Association, made an address of welcome, which was responded to by Gen. J. W. Denver, President of the National Association. Over 100 members answered the roll call. The Secretary's report showed a membership of 4,949, of whom 3,517 had received badges. Sixteen died during the year. The present officers of the association were re-elected, viz.: President—James W. Denver, of Washington, D. C. First Vice-President—John Love, of Indianapolis. Secretary—Alexander M. Kennedy, of Washington, D. C. Treasurer—S. V. Niles, of Washington, D. C. Marshal—E. R. Biles, of Philadelphia. Assistant Secretaries—H. A. McGlenan, S. G. Swan, L. F. Beeler and J. M. H. Martin. Financial Committee—Brevet Major-General S. P. Heintzelman, S. V. Niles and M. D. Montis. Besides these there are two vice-presidents from each State. Resolutions were adopted asking for the employment of Mexican veterans by the Government without regard to the part they took in the late war, and appointing a committee of one from each State, to urge Congress to pass the bill granting the veterans a pension. In the absence of the regular orator, Green Clay Smith, of Kentucky, Gen. W. H. E. Davis, of Pennsylvania, delivered his lecture on the "Halls of Montezuma."

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

#### AFFAIRS AT THE CAPITAL.

WASHINGTON, March 5, 1878.

THE democratic caucus of yesterday did not consider the Banning Army bill, or to agree to take it up as a party measure. Mr. Banning says, however, that he would like to see the democrat who will vote against the bill. He is in a fair way to see several of them, for it is doubtful whether a single man of either the Texas or Missouri delegations will vote for it.

Two of the four vacancies on the retired list are filled by the retirement of Captains Gallup of the 1st Infantry, and Boehm of the 4th Cavalry. As far as I can learn, no regular rule is followed in the filling of these vacancies. During the last administration they were filled by those who could bring the most influence to bear, without much regard to the claims of the numerous applicants. And in more than one instance we fear that persons were placed on the retired list who would not in all probability have remained long in the Service by reason of very bad habits. Recently an officer who had seen but little service was about to be tried for drunkenness, but he gave a solemn pledge to avoid liquor. As these things generally go, he was soon in trouble again, but by some influence he was placed on the retired list. It is gratifying to state that when the President was made acquainted with the facts in the case he gave directions to have the order revoked. Another case for which the present administration is in no wise to blame is that of an old gentleman who was many years since tried and dismissed from the Navy for disgraceful conduct in a foreign country. This man, some two years after our late war, received an appointment as chaplain in the Army, and in eighteen months thereafter he turns up on the Army retired list. Now, the Army officers feel justly outraged when their retired list becomes an asylum for drunkards and disreputable persons, and it is to be hoped, as it is sincerely believed, that during the present administration no cases of this character will occur. What is remarkable in this case just cited is the fact that the quondam naval person is a man of considerable means. On the best of security he will loan you money at 10 per cent., and he daily laughs at the sharp practice he played when he got the Government to give him a handsome pension for life, for nothing, for it is doubtful whether he ever did one day's duty.

The following named officers are registered at the War Department for the week ending March 5: Capt. Cuyler, Engineers; Capt. Wilson, 2d Artillery; Col. Woodruff, retired; Lieut. Huggins, 2d Artillery; Lieut. London, 5th Cavalry; Lieut. Taylor, 1st Artillery; Lieut. Davis, 1st Artillery; Lieut. Reed, 1st Infantry; Lieut. Andrus, 5th Cavalry.

An allusion was made last week to a coarse attack upon the late Chief of the Bureau of Provisions and Clothing of the Navy, by one of the morning journals here. In the edition of a few days later the journal makes a sort of apology for the article, stating that "the reporter was evidently misinformed by some person who either intended to injure Mr. Watmough, or was himself misled by a designing enemy," and he goes on to say that the Honorable Secretary of the Navy had expressed the highest opinion of Mr. Watmough's integrity and honorable character. This is all very nice, but it would occur to the average man that a journal which pretends to respectability is in poor business when it employs reporters who are malicious enough to malign respectable people, or who are stupid enough to be duped by "a designing enemy."

The Naval Examining Board, which has been in session for some days to report upon the case of Capt. S. Nicholson, has concluded its labors. The captain has many friends who will be anxious to hear the report of the Board.

The case of Capt. Jeffers is not yet decided. It would to a layman appear incredible that the promotion of such an able officer as Capt. Jeffers could be delayed for the reason that he is suffering from disease contracted during a long and honorable service. But so it is. The physical examination is required by law, and if the report of a Board is adverse, the most meritorious officer may be deprived of his promotion.

EBERT.

THE N. Y. World has the following items:

The proposed reduction of the pay of the Army is very naturally creating a vigorous protest along the whole line and through the staff. It was therefore deemed best to submit the bill to the Democratic caucus of the House this afternoon with a view of obtaining an expression of the views of its members. The bill was read at length, but before any debate took place an adjournment was carried. The measure will be brought up at a future caucus. There is a very decided opposition to reducing the Army while there is not so much objection to cutting down the extravagant pay (sic), in which is included in many cases liberal commutations of quarters, etc.

There seems to be a fair prospect that the Bureau of Indian Affairs will be transferred to the War Department. All the members of the House Committee on Indian Affairs, with two exceptions, concur in recommending the passage of a bill for that purpose.

The appointing of Appointment Clerk Smith, of the Treasury, to be a paymaster in the regular Army has elicited a vigorous protest from the Army officers, some of whom are now only captains after having graduated at West Point in the class with General Sheridan. They do not see why a civilian should be appointed to a position to which they think they ought to be promoted.

The Washington Star, of March 6, says: "Gen. O. O. Howard was at the court house this morning. The civil cases, to recover certain sums of money, in which it is alleged he has defaulted, will be tried by the Criminal Court on Monday."



## THE NATIONAL GUARD.

**THE GENERAL STAFF.—INSPECTOR-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT, RIFLE PRACTICE, CONCLUDED.**—In the very first section of the "law for the promotion of rifle practice in the National Guard" serious blunders were committed. (The act was published in General Order No 14, A. G. O., series of 1874.)

"Section 1. There shall be in the inspector-general's department an assistant inspector-general, with the rank of colonel, in addition to those now prescribed by law, to be known as the general-inspector of rifle practice, who shall be appointed by the Commander-in-Chief, and whose commission shall expire with the time for which the Governor may have been elected."

The term inspector of rifle practice is a misnomer, for the incumbent of such an office is an instructor and should be known as instructor of rifle practice, or, better, as instructor of musketry. The title would then describe the officer, and it is important that it should. Again, the duties of the office are executive; not so an inspector's duties. As an executive officer the general instructor of musketry might belong to the Adjutant-General's Department, and is certainly out of place in that of the Inspector-General. Perhaps it would have been well to create a new department, and in this case there would have been no necessity for the anomaly which is now provided by section 42 of the Military Code.

"The division, brigade, regimental, and battalion inspectors of rifle practice shall perform such duties as may from time to time be prescribed by the General-Inspector of Rifle Practice, with the approval of the Inspector-General." Except for his misplacement in the Inspector-General's Department, there seems to be no reason why the General Instructor of Musketry should need the approval of the Inspector-General. It is not in accordance with our military system to have the acts of one staff officer made valid by the approval of another staff officer. The language from the Military Code is also to be found in section 706 of the General Regulations, and is there preceded by—"The General-Inspector of Rifle Practice shall have charge of rifle practice throughout the State, and shall direct the manner in which the same shall be conducted. He shall report direct to the Inspector-General."

The directions which are issued from time to time upon the subject of musketry proceed from the general instructor, in the form of circulars bearing the approval of the Inspector-General. They request this or that performance of duty, and most officers now look upon the circulars simply as requests, not at all as official directions, which they are in fact. The circulars have the bad effect upon the discipline of the National Guard, that is always produced in military bodies when subordinates are allowed to choose between following and not following instructions.

If there were a department of musketry the chief of the department could give official directions to all subordinates in it, and such directions would comprise nearly everything which is now put in the circulars. Department instructions would be given sufficient weight by the signature of the chief alone, but these instructions which pertained to the movements of troops for instance, or which were for the guidance of commanding officers, should be signed,

"By order of the Commander-in-Chief."  
"FRANKLIN TOWNSEND, Adjutant-General."

or, "By order of the Commander-in-Chief."  
"GEO. W. WINGATE, General-Inspector of Musketry and Assistant Adjutant-General."

It would be found unnecessary to use the power of the Commander-in-Chief more than two or three times a year, say once in planning a course of practice in armories and once for a course in the field.

The duties of instructors of musketry (called Inspectors of Rifle Practice) are explained in the General Regulations under "Rifle Practice," in the Military Code, as noticed above; in part I. of the Manual of Rifle Practice, adopted by the State; and, in twenty-three circulars issued up to this writing. The space allotted to this article does not permit of the introduction of quotations from the above, or even of summarizing all the directions, and instructors of musketry must therefore be left to make their own survey of the official literature. There is no index to the circulars.

All instructors of musketry should be good shots, and should labor to inspire a general interest in marksmanship. They must employ tact and knowledge of human nature to overcome the natural prejudice that exists among other officers regarding new duties. They should be men of intelligence in order to comprehend and explain the system of instruction.

Division instructors have to do with providing a course of practice in the armories, and the allotment of days in the field, as bases for division orders. These duties may also be performed by the general instructor. Division instructors superintend the practice of troops attached directly to division headquarters and make annual reports to the general instructor. Such officers, also, should supervise the work of brigade instructors, and, particularly, should so scrutinize regimental "Consolidated Reports" that errors which have been unnoticed at brigade headquarters shall go no further.

Brigade instructors provide the bases for brigade orders regarding rifle practice not provided at higher headquarters. They have the direction of field practice, and when so directing should be empowered to use the name of their commanding officer and also to add to their own proper title that of acting assistant adjutant-general. They appoint the ammunition and assign the targets. The amount of practice that can be obtained by the troops upon any occasion depends greatly upon the executive ability of the directing instructor, and he should go to the ground with the troops and arrange all details while in transit. During the practice he should employ several orderlies to carry his directions. He must always know what he is going to do next; must keep the officers posted as to their duties; and must be ready to answer correctly all questions and settle all disputes without parley. He should see that the men are well taught, and he should remember that he must save time not by curtailing instruction but by preventing delays. Brigade instructors make annual reports to the general instructor when forwarding the regimental "Consolidated Reports." These should not be forwarded with apparent errors on their face.

Regimental instructors should excite a regimental interest in marksmanship; if possible, a spirit of competition among the companies. They should induce their commanding officers to direct the preparation of company rolls, classifying the members in marksmanship; such

rolls to be conspicuously placed in company rooms. Regimental instructors should see that suitable rifle ranges are provided in their armories and the men have opportunities for practice in addition to that ordered. But more important than any other duty is that of preventing false scoring and false personation, both in the armory and in the field. The regimental instructor is the guardian of the honor of marksmanship, and should be ever vigilant to keep it unstained. He makes up the list of marksmen, with their scores, and furnishes the "Consolidated Reports."

**THE INTERNATIONAL MILITARY MATCH.**—Ever since the first organization of the National Rifle Association, the question has come up at intervals: Why should we not have an International Military Match, pitting our National Guardsmen against the English Volunteers? We have had enough of long range sporting matches; we may in fact be said to be satiated with victories in that kind of contest, having beaten all comers at home and abroad. But as the JOURNAL has always held, long range shooting is not the end and aim of the modern system of rifle practice. The National Rifle Association was formed to promote military shooting, and to raise the standard of marksmanship among American troops, and if it does not perform that duty it loses more than half of its usefulness. We are very glad to find, therefore, that the tone of opinion in the National Guard of New York State and elsewhere is becoming favorable this year to the opening of a grand series of international matches, to be held with Great Britain and any other country that may choose to join in the contests from year to year. If such a series of matches can once be started, we feel convinced that it will establish itself firmly in the affections of our people, and that great benefits must follow. There is little doubt that our regular soldiers would find that incentive to excel in marksmanship which they have hitherto lacked—the stimulus of excitement in an honorable contest—if the British regular forces entered, as they probably would. Regular against regular, National Guard against Volunteer, with further contests open to all, offer an endless field for variety and excitement; and no matter whose standard victory settled on the first year, it is hardly possible that the contest could be so one-sided as it has been in the long range matches. The field of competition would be much larger, the weapons more various, and the result would settle many disputed points. The English claim that their Martini-Henry is the best military rifle in the world, while our Ordnance officers say they have tried it at Springfield beside the present U. S. weapon, with results favorable to America. Sharps and Remington, Peabody-Martini and Springfield, our manufacturers claim to have beaten the world for range and precision. Let us then by all means have a military match this year, and settle who has the best military rifle and best school of instruction in its use. Our own prediction is that there will be found to be little difference between the work of any of the first-class rifles mentioned, but that in team shooting America will probably beat the rest through superior discipline and organization. If France and Germany can only be induced to enter the lists, the contest will be still more interesting, and that they will do so, we most earnestly hope. The Germans have been boasting of their Mauser rifle, and the French of their new weapon, the Gras or improved chassapott, each as the best of its kind. An International match at all ranges will soon settle that point and many others.

**FORMATIONS BY TWO MOVEMENTS.**—Paragraph 419, Tactics, describes as successive formations, "formations into line by two movements." Par. 374 directs guides to invert their pieces in front of the centre of the body, the rule being general for all successive formations; while paragraph 378 states that each captain commands "support arms" after dressing, also making the rule general for all successive formations. Paragraphs 432 and 509 describe formations into line by two movements; one being from the double column of fours, and the other being from the double column of companies. In 1875 considerable discussion was held among officers in the 1st Div. N. G., S. N. Y., as to the correct method of executing these movements. Lieut.-Col. Ryderat that time acting commandant of the 7th New York, asserted that he had positive information from Gen. Upton that these movements must not be considered successive, except as to the wing, which entered the line by "on right or left into line." One half of the battalion therefore executed a simultaneous while the other half performed a successive formation. On appeal Gen. Upton decided that the 7th were correct, and the rule has been followed throughout the National Guard of the 1st and 2d New York Divisions. Lately, however, criticisms on these formations have been found fault with, and at the drill of Cos. D and G, of the 7th, held on March 4, the rule so strenuously advocated two years ago was departed from; the companies of the right wing, after deploying by "on right into line" from column of fours, executing the "support arms," an officer present stating that the 7th had direct authority for considering the movement as successive in both wings. As many of the officers of the National Guard adhered to the decision given in 1875, the following communication from one of our correspondents will no doubt interest our readers:

"In several of the late numbers of the JOURNAL captains are criticised for giving command to support arms in formation into line by two movements. I have within two days seen an original letter by Gen. Upton, and the following is a literal extract therefrom: 'In forming line from column of fours by two movements the guide of the companies which wheel by fours do not come out to mark the line, each captain causes his company to support arms as soon as it is dressed. In the same manner from column of companies the guides of the companies which wheel into line do not invert their pieces; the captains support arms as soon as their companies are dressed.'"

Now if these movements are successive, why are not the rules fully carried out? Why should not the guides of the wheeling companies invert their pieces as well as the company support arms? There certainly is as much authority for it, as for their supporting arms.

**FIFTH NEW YORK.**—Company F, with three sergeants and sixteen men, and Co. E, with one sergeant and ten men, consolidated, formed a company of twelve files for drill, at the armory, on Tuesday evening. The company formations, notwithstanding the very small numbers present, were very slow, while a decided falling off in discipline was observed. The men were careless, talking and laughing in the ranks after formation and during roll call. On receiving command, Captain Gerner, of Co. F, directed an execution of the "manual," which, although by the "motions," was poor, the men lacking steadiness and attention. At the close of the manual the pieces were piled, and the men formed in two lines for instruction in "aiming" drill and "indicator" practice. Ten of the indicator targets were used on each side of the room, each man being allowed five rounds standing and five kneeling, those securing a required number of points being allowed to fire three rounds with powder and ball in the gallery. In this instruction the whole evening was consumed. How much of the principles of rifle practice these men learned on the occasion it is hard to determine; but that two good hours,

which ought to be devoted to squad drill, in the setting up, facings, step and manual, were completely wasted there is no doubt. When men learn the position of a soldier and the first principles of the step and marchings it is time enough to place muskets in their hands, and when a fair control of the piece is acquired it may be then, and not till then, necessary to instruct them in rifle practice. Principles then taught are not forgotten; but what can be expected from men who are placed before a target and directed to fire, who have not been taught how to either load or aim, in squad or company. In the early part of the season, we noticed with praise the apparent advancement in drill and discipline of the 5th; but since the commencement of the New Year, the attendance at drills has been growing smaller and beautifully less, while the attention has been decidedly slack. The inspection return shows an average present of about 45 per company, in this regiment, yet at these company drills they fail to present a "turn out" of an average of 25. Colonel Spencer should immediately investigate the causes of the "falling off" in his regiment. "A stitch in time saves nine" is an old motto, which might be remembered with advantage by the field and company officers of the 5th.

**SEVENTH NEW YORK.**—The first of the series of division drills, in battalion movements, in this regiment, was held at the armory on Monday, March 4, Cos. D and G being equalized into four commands of twelve front. At 8.15 P.M., to command was turned over to Colonel Clark, who after opening and closing ranks commenced the drill with the manual of arms. The execution of the motions were only fair, that of the third company in line being far below the standard of the regiment. At the "fix bayonet" the color guard executed the movement; this was a mistake, but when at the "charge bayonet" the pieces of the color corporals were dropped to the charge, mistake, could not cover the gross error of the non-commissioned officers composing the color guard, and the disgust of the officers and men of the regiment present as spectators was freely expressed. An advance in line, wheel about and retreat were well done, the step, however, was nearly 125 to the minute, while the dressing after the four about was very slow. A march in column of fours followed, distances only fair and step positively bad. The right company were marching at about 115, while the left of the column were stepping 120 to the minute. A march left in front was marked by the same error inverted. Column of fours break from the right to march to the left, with an on right into line was excellent, the right company however which was the first to enter the line was the last to "support arms." These movements were repeated by the left only in fair shape, the rapidity of the step added to the distance to the front, allowed by the left company, marring the precision of the movement. Right of companies rear into column and a march in column was spoiled by the repeated loss of distance in the third company, plainly observed on the wheel into line. A march in column left in front, was open to the same criticism on the part of the same company, and notwithstanding the repeated cautions of the colonel, the guide could not preserve the proper distance. At the wheel into line, the guide of this company left his place and retired to the rank of file closers, he was however corrected by the colonel. A repetition was only fair. After breaking to the rear by right of companies, the column was closed in mass, and wheeling distance taken from the right. The column was crowded at the start, the rear companies taking up the direct step too soon. On rear company close in mass was poor, caused by the crowding of the second and third companies. Take wheeling distance and wheel into line was spoiled by the failure of some of the guides to stand fast at the wheel. From the column of fours companies left front into line was given, the fours of the third company breaking into an oblique instead of executing the turn. The movement by the right was well done. The double column of fours was next formed, the right of the third company failing to oblique the required three yards; fortunately, however, there were no file closers in the two centre companies. A deployment to the front was handsomely executed. A repetition of this movement with a deployment by two movements was spoiled by a blunder of the left centre company. After a wheel into column, left front into line was fairly executed, as was companies break from the right to march to the left and wheel into line. The drill, as a whole, was not good, the officers were not prompt, and often hesitated in the giving of commands, while the blunders committed by the third company in line in the early part of the drill seemed to demoralize them.

**ELEVENTH NEW YORK.**—The left wing of this command, Cos. C, E, I and K, were drilled in battalion movements at the armory on February 27, Major Fahrin command. At ten minutes past eight o'clock the battalion formed in four commands of twelve files, with blanks in the two right companies, was turned over by the adjutant, the drill commencing with an execution of the manual of arms. The men were steady and attentive, but as the primary lessons of the squad had been neglected, the motions were irregular. The principles were understood, but the 1, 2, 3, were completely ignored. After the manual the companies were broken into column, the wheels being very fair, as was the return into line, the pivot guides being excellent, while those in the marching flank were careful as to distance. In the column of fours marches the step was steady and regular, with fine distances and fair alignments; the first sergeants of companies were also correct. The manual on the march was good, in fact better than at the halt. A fours left about, inverted the column, and on the march the step was lost and some confusion ensued. The distances, however, were maintained, and a wheel into line, with an advance, was nicely executed, while at the halt the pieces were brought to the carry with uniformity. To wheel by companies and march in column was barely passable, the wheel not being equal to the previous efforts. The step too fell off, while the distances were poor. This was fully shown by the companies lapping at the wheel into line, and much time was wasted in the dressing. In order to gain ground a side step was executed in a very handsome manner, not too fast, as is usually the case in most organizations. An "order arms" was very poor, and a "parade rest" very bad, the men being very unsteady. The deployments into close column of companies with deployments were fairly executed; the guides, however, were not always correct as to facings or the position of pieces, while in the deployments the major incorrectly posted his markers. Markers are used to designate the points of rest of the division on which the deployment is made, and not the flanks of the battalion when deployed. To and on the right and left close column of divisions were neatly done, as were the changes into column of fours, the company commanders being prompt in giving orders, thereby preventing any loss of distance. After a short rest the close column movements were again taken up, the deployments being made on the interior divisions. These movements at first were somewhat ragged, caused partly by the carelessness of the guides. Repetitions were made, and the movements executed in much better shape. On right and left into line from the column of fours was only fairly executed, the men understanding the movement but being careless in the execution. The fours straggled into line, many of them



dressing before bringing the pieces to the carry. In these movements, Co. C, Capt. Fleck, deserve to be complimented for promptness and care in the execution and steadiness when in line. The above movements were repeated several times, an improvement being observed on each repetition. An exercise in the manual of arms closed the drill, the execution being deficient; and at the fix and unfixed bayonet there was much noise and confusion. The drill, as a total, was fair, and a marked improvement on previous efforts of the command. The weak points noted in the JOURNAL have been corrected, the guides have been brought up to a fair standard, while it was plain to be seen that the officers had been carefully perusing the tactics. The regiment is striving to reach perfect symmetry in drill, and a continued correction of the weak spots pointed out by us will soon place them in a foremost position. Let the officers remember that the JOURNAL's mission is to point out faults and errors, not in a spirit of fault finding, but that officers and sergeants may note the errors of themselves and others and thereby prevent future mistakes.

**THIRTEENTH NEW YORK.**—This regiment was ordered to assemble at the armory on March 1, nominally for battalion drill and dress parade; really, for the purpose of introducing to the command its new chaplain, Rev. Henry Ward Beecher. The first part of the evening was passed in listening to the music of the regimental band, under the leadership of Professor Deverell, and at 8.35 assembly was sounded for drill. It was naturally supposed that when the companies entered the main room they would have been formed, rolls called and regimental equalization perfected; instead of which the companies were merely formed to take arms from the racks, Co. H straggling in by ones, twos and sections. Companies were then formed, rolls called and the equalization made, the colors without escort wandering to the rear, seeking proper position. At 9.07 P.M. adjutant's call was sounded. The left wing entered the line in fair shape, but the right wing being for this occasion increased by one company (the regiment having only nine), the commandant of the fourth company, E, who was transferred from the left to the right, did not know his position in line, and marched and counter-marched, to the disgust of the other companies, but much to the amusement of the spectators. The lieutenant-colonel finally set him straight, and he found his place. The third company, G, which followed the meanderings of the lieutenant of company E, next entered the line, but the circular marches must have been too much for the officer in command. He hesitated as to from which flank the dress should be given. "Ho who hesitates is lost" was fully proved in this case, for after appearing dazed for a few moments, he darted by the rear of his company to the left and dressed it. Over six minutes was wasted in the formation. The battalion turned over to Colonel Austen was ten companies of twelve files front in fatigue uniform. The drill was commenced with a march in column of fours, step poor, distances uneven with double space between the leading guides and the preceding companies. On the left close column of companies and continue the march was fairly executed, but during the march in column much distance was lost in the third and fourth companies in line. This movement was repeated by the left with the same loss of distance in the fourth company of the original line whose lieutenant commanding did not seem to have the faintest perception of what to do, or when to do it. These movements were repeated by division in better form, but not good. To and on the right and left close column of divisions were fairly executed. After which the command was dismissed to reform for dress parade. In this formation the battalion formed with nine companies. The trouble about position was again apparent, for Co. C, who was third in line during the drill, should have been eighth in line at the dress parade. The commandants of companies had received no orders as to the change, and this company wandered around the right flank of the regiment seeking a place, until notified by the lieutenant-colonel. Both formations were wretchedly poor, the companies passing and re-passing in front of the color line. The "sound off" was excellent, the band being headed by Drum Major Smith in a handsome manner considering the space allowed for manoeuvres in open column. The manual of arms was excellent. Previous to the sergeants' reports, Chaplain Beecher was called to the front, and sworn into service by Col. Austen. The new chaplain then made a short and enthusiastic speech to the regiment, during which the men were perfectly steady, but one attempt being made to join the applause, and that quickly checked by the file closers. The command was then dismissed and the concert continued. The military part of the evening's programme was, to say the least, bad, not from any want of attention or steadiness on the part of the men, but from the carelessness or ignorance of the officers. A finer set of men would be hard to find. If Colonel Austen will examine the archives of the regiment he will find an order issued, we think, in 1869, by Gen. Jourdan, which might be again promulgated to the officers in this command with good effect. If our memory serves us right, one of the paragraphs addressed to the officers was "read or resign, book up or leave."

**TWENTY-SECOND NEW YORK.**—The companies comprising the right wing of this regiment, A, C, D, H and K, were assembled for battalion drill at the armory, on Friday, March 1, the five commands being equalized into six companies of twelve front. The battalion was turned over to Col. Porter, who was assisted by Lieut.-Col. Camp and Major Horsfall, and the drill commenced with the performance of the manual of arms, immediately followed by a handsome advance in line of battle. The column of fours were then formed, the step during the march being too rapid, nearly 120 to the minute. Line was formed by fours left and the battalion again advanced in line shape with a second break by fours, etc. These movements were repeated several times, distances and alignments being excellent, but the step continuing too fast. The manual on the march was excellent. On right into line from column of fours was neatly performed, fours halting, pieces being brought down together, and dressing prompt. The duties of guides were well rendered. This movement from the left was equally well done. The fronts into line from column of fours were only fair, the men straggling somewhat into their places, with the manual ragged and guides careless; repetitions, however, were fairly rendered. Left front into line faced to the rear was completed in poor shape, owing to the rear company changing direction to the right too soon; while the movement by the right was spoiled by the captain of the leading company executing "left front into line." Repetitions were better, but could hardly be considered good. The double time was next taken up, the column of fours march being excellent; step uniform, although the length of the pace was barely 25 inches. The manner in which the battalion resumed the quick from the double time was simply splendid; and whether in column of fours, company front, or in line of battle, the change was instantaneous and perfect. After a much needed rest, the column of fours was again moved, with changes by the flank of divisions and sub-divisions; distances were repeatedly lost, particularly between companies, while the step continued much too rapid. Companies left front into line from column of fours was well done,

although the left company took up the double time without orders. These movements were repeated in double time all in good shape, although occasionally the leading fours would increase the step necessitating a rapid advance of the rear fours to correct the distance. The space between companies was too great during these movements. The advance and retreat by the flank of companies and the obliquing were handsomely executed; on the other hand, the wheelings were very poor. At the first wheel the leading company blundered, through a mistake of the command, the pivot guides did not continue at the short step, while those on the marching flanks were not careful as to the correct arc. On wheeling into line the right guide of the leading company failed to obey paragraph 448, Tactics, and when directed to take his proper position he improperly inverted his piece, as in successive formations. The marches in column were only fair, the rapidity of the step was not corrected, while the distances were not preserved. A left into line wheel, and continue the march from this column, was beautifully executed; the manual on the march being excellent. The drill for the 22d could not be considered a good one; the men were hardly as attentive as they should have been, and appeared to be tired after the first movements in double time, while the guides were not as prompt as was desired.

**STATE MILITARY ASSOCIATION.**—The annual meeting of the State Military Association was held at Albany on February 27 and 28, the annual address being delivered by Judge Henry A. Gildersleeve. During the meeting the following preamble and resolution was adopted:

Whereas, Experience has shown the necessity of reorganizing this Association upon a representative basis; it is therefore Resolved, That a committee consisting of the officers of this Association and four members, to be selected by the president, be appointed, with authority to prepare and adopt a plan for the formation of an association consisting of authorized delegates from the several military organizations of the State, on the basis of two from each division headquarters, three from each regiment, two from each battalion, and one from each troop, battery, and separate company, the Commander-in-Chief and his staff to be ex-officio members, and which plan shall also provide for an executive committee, to have, during the year, the same powers as the Association; that the officers of this association, to be elected at this meeting, shall be the first officers of the new association, and shall hold office until their successors are chosen.

The adoption of this resolution has at last given the National Guard a representative Association, and one that may do some good. Now let the reformed Association hold its next meeting in the city of New York, thereby allying to its ranks the representatives of the brigades and regiments of the 1st and 2d Divisions. The following officers were then elected and the meeting adjourned: President, Col. Amasa J. Parker, Jr., 10th regt.; Vice-Presidents—First, Brig.-Gen. J. M. Varian, 3d Brig.; Second, Gen. Rensselaer, 3d Div.; Third, Col. Geo. W. Wingate, G. I. R. P.; Fourth, Maj. Henry Brinker, 7th Div.; Treasurer, Col. Wm. H. Thomas, 2d Div. staff; Secretary, Col. C. A. H. Berry, 5th Div.; Chaplain, Rev. Stephen H. Tyng, Jr., 12th regiment.

**RIFLE PRACTICE FOR 1878.**—Important changes will be introduced into the N. G. rifle practice for the coming year, as the result of conferences held in January and February between Col. Wingate, G. I. R. P., and the inspectors of the 1st and 2d Divisions, N. G. S. N. Y. A plan was suggested by Lieut.-Col. E. H. Sanford, which will be fixed as the maximum, each marksman to count 100; first class shots, 75; second class, 50; third class, 25. Those who shoot below the standard to be assigned to the lowest credit to be given, the figure of merit being found by dividing the aggregate of all classes by the number present at last inspection. This plan was endorsed by most of the division and brigade commanders, being opposed by the 2d Brigade and some others. Col. Wingate decided to adopt this plan so far as to allow 100 for a marksman, 60 for a first class shot, 30 for a second class, 10 for a third class, and nothing for a man not shooting. The number present for inspection is to be hung in the company room. These blanks are very complete, and their use will enable not only the various inspectors but all officers to know exactly how the various companies stand at all times during the year.

The proposed changes, which have met with great favor, will undoubtedly lead to the increased interest in rifle practice. The G. I. R. P. is now preparing a circular which will embody these alterations, as well as all other changes that have been made in the manual of rifle practice since 1873, including the new rules of the N. G. A. This will be in such a shape that it can be inserted in the manuals.

**MASSACHUSETTS.**—The 9th seems asleep this winter, and we hear nothing from them. At one time we understood inspections were to occur, but so long a period has passed we have concluded they were abandoned. Certainly something should be done in this command; at least they ought to attempt battalion drills, for they are about the only organization that are situated near the "shed," and can improve the opportunity.

Company C, 1st Battalion Infantry (Newton), passed the fiery ordeal of inspection Feb. 24. The company formation was poor, unparadoxically so; the order "fall in" being followed by unnecessary crowding from a few while the bulk of the company appeared indifferent as to the time consumed in forming the line. The omission to divide into platoons was observed, and the first sergeant turned over to the company to its commander in so low a tone of voice that his words were inaudible to us, although but a few feet distance. Ranks were immediately opened, failing to pay the inspecting officer the customary salute, and captain took position upon right of company, when the inspecting officer intimated that the company commander come to the front and further intimated that a present would be acceptable, which was immediately rendered. Manual of inspection fair, but steadiness, notably rear rank, poor. The uniforms were to all appearances in good condition, and accoutrements well kept, but the slovenly and bungling manner in which knapsacks were slung ruined the appearance of the company. The rolling of the overcoat needs illustrating also; attacking of arms good, and opening of ranks as well. Unslung knapsacks, one was placed on the floor in reversed position, and the alignment was so poor that the company commander was obliged to correct it. The balance of inspection passed fairly. But few company movements were attempted, but those were very well executed. Discipline is evidently not understood in Co. C. Before the company formation the members of the company were dancing, smoking pipes and cigars, etc.; singing; all in the armory filled with visitors. A sentry posted at the head of the stairs was smoking, and attending to duty in a diligent manner at the same time. Courtesy was illustrated occasionally by an enlisted man approaching an officer,

and with a forward motion of the hand towards his cap (which is considered as a salute), stating his wishes. Co. C know their weak points, let it correct them.

Co. J, of Brockton, was inspected on Wednesday evening, Feb. 27, and our notice will appear next week.

Inspections are ordered in the 1st Cavalry, command as follows: Co. D, 13th inst.; Co. A, 19th inst.

Major Follet, the Battalion commander, leaves for Europe upon a short pleasure trip, soon after the inspections.

Inspections are ordered in the 9th Bat. Infantry as follows: Co. K, March 15; C, March 20; E, March 27; A, April 2; H, April 5; G, April 10.

Elections for 2d lieutenants in Cos. K and C will occur upon the evening of March 13 and 19, respectively.

S. O. 13, A.-G. O., orders a court-martial at the office of Judge-Advocate-General Blackmar, on Tuesday, March 12, for the trial of Captain E. W. Murphy, Co. G, Ninth Infantry, on charges preferred by Col. Strachan.

**PENNSYLVANIA.**—In Philadelphia the 22d was celebrated by a street parade of the Washington Grays, and Co. D, 1st regiment, the two forming a battalion, divided into four companies, parading in heavy marching order. At Thirteenth and Locust streets the command was reviewed by Gen. Patterson. During the passing the marching of both commands was all in all very commendable, distances being well preserved, and alignments good. The salutes were somewhat irregular; the band also failed to leave the column (after passing), and take post to the front. The State Fencibles also made a short parade the same day, presenting their usual fine appearance. Their trip to Paris has about fallen through. The ceremony of presenting the colors of the late 30th regiment to the Veteran Corps of the 1st regiment, took place at the armory of Co. D, 1st regiment, on the evening of the 22d, and was also participated in by the Washington Grays and 1st regiment. After the ceremony of presentation and accompanying speeches were concluded, Col. McMichael made an address, giving a short history of the 1st regiment. Brief addresses were made by Gov. Harrist, Gen. Patterson, and others, after which a substantial lunch was served to all present.

**DELAWARE.**—The latest military event of any importance was the exhibition drill and dress reception given by Co. C, 1st Delaware Volunteers (Du Pont Guards), at their armory, in the Masonic Temple, Wilmington, on Thursday evening, Feb. 21. The spacious armory of the company was last fully decorated with the national colors, was the scene of the first part of the evening's programme, which consisted of a most excellent exhibition of the manual of arms followed by a well executed exercise in marching movements and a company inspection. If the company had been a veteran organization their general drill proficiency would have deserved particular mention, but for a company of very recent formation, who had only commenced drilling in September, and who handled arms for the first time in October last, they showed remarkable talents for their new and honorable service. At the conclusion of the drill a large room adjacent to the armory was thrown open for dancers, and the fair daughters and sons of Wilmington's best society kept up the gay festivities well into the morning of Washington's birthday. General congratulations were exchanged on the brilliant success of the "Du Ponts" first reception, and the members promised something more grand at their next one. Their entertainments will be one of the annual features in the round of their pleasant city's winter festivities.

The company is well officered, and possesses an efficient civil organization. Their Captain, S. A. Macallister, saw service during the entire war, at first in the 1st Delaware Volunteer regiment, where he worked himself up from the ranks, and afterwards on the staff of the 3d Corps, Army of the Potomac. He is a thorough officer in every respect, and ranks high as a citizen. He is City Solicitor of Wilmington, and bids fair to be its next mayor, being now a candidate for that office. The 1st Lieutenant, Dr. J. M. Curtis, also had actual experience in our civil strife, and is now a practicing physician in Wilmington; 2d Lt. Walter Burke is a clever and conscientious officer. The President of the company is P. T. E. Smith, Paying Teller First National Bank, Wilmington; Secretary, H. P. Bowers; Treasurer, Walter P. Treadwell.

In September last the company procured from the United States Government 100 newest pattern Springfield breech loading rifles, 46 calibre, and an equal number of sets of the latest model infantry equipments. Their uniform, which has just come from the hands of Messrs Jacob Reed & Sons, Philadelphia, consists of dark blue cut-away coat, with red lace trimming on skirts, and light blue pants. The officers wear the U. S. A. Regulation, double-breasted frock coat and pants. We had almost forgotten to mention a pleasing incident of the evening—the presentation by 1st Lieut. Curtis of a handsome medal to Orderly Sergeant F. L. Holmes, for the best individual exhibition of drilling. It was a well deserved compliment to the recipient, as he was fully up to his duties as a good Orderly. The medal was Lieut. Curtis' own gift.

#### VARIOUS ITEMS.

—The 13th New York will hold its fourth social reunion at the armory on March 13.

—Co. G, 71st New York, will give a reception and hop at the Lexington Avenue Opera House on Thursday, March 21.

—The companies of the 11th New York paraded by company in full uniform for inspection at the armory during the past week.

—Co. H, 5th New York, held its thirtieth annual reception at the Teutonia Assembly Rooms on March 7. A good time was had by the company and its guests.

—The 23d New York will parade for review by Brig.-Gen. I. L. Beebe and presentation of marksman's badges at the Clermont avenue armory on Wednesday, March 13.

—A new company of infantry, to be known as the 20th Separate Company of Infantry, has been organized at Birmingham, N. Y., with the following officers: Captain, Eugene G. Judd; 1st Lieutenant, Arthur H. Denton; 2d Lieutenant, E. A. Roberts.

—An application has been made by the Saratoga Citizens' Corps to be organized as a separate company of infantry National Guard. The captain will be John S. Fassett, late major 2d Veteran N. Y. Cavalry, and one hundred men will be mustered in if the permission is granted.

—Col. Rueger, of the 33d New York, manifests much interest in rifle practice, etc. During January and February the companies of his regiment practiced at the range, and the team shoots weekly. Col. Rueger intends that his men shall understand Wingate's Manual thoroughly.

—The wings of the 33d New York were exercised in battalion movements on March 6 and 8 at the regimental armory. The command will also drill by wing on March 13 and 20, 15 and 22, and by regiment on the 26th and April 2. On April 8 they will be reviewed by Gen. Ira L. Beebe, and the marksman's badges will be presented by Major H. S. Manning, I. R. P. 11th Brigade.

—On Washington's birthday, the Governor's Guards, of Atlanta, Ga.; the Albany Guards, of Albany; the cadets and the volunteers, of Macon; the Independent Battalion, of Augusta; the 1st Georgia regiment, the Savannah Volunteer Guards Battalion, the Georgia Hussars (Gen. R. H. Anderson), and the venerable Chatham Artillery (90 years old), paraded. The Hussars had a prize sabre contest, and the regiment and guards battalion prize target shooting. At night the Republican Buses encircled the Chatham Artillery in due style.

—The funeral of Adj.-Gen. LeFavore occurred at St. Paul's Church, Pawtucket, R. I., March 1, and was attended by a great concourse of people. The military escort comprised the First Light Infantry regiment, the Kearney Light Infantry, the Light Artillery Battalion and Cavalry Battalion. The Holy Sepulchre Encampment, Knights Templar, and Tower Post, G. A. R., were also in line. The Episcopal and Knight Templar services were read, and Gov. Van Zandt delivered a brief eulogy. Among those present were ex-Gov. Baldwin, of Michigan, uncle of the deceased, and Gen. James Shields.

—The Amoskeag (N. H.) Veterans celebrated their 24th anniversary at May's Opera House, Manchester, on the evening of February 23. The hall was beautifully decorated. The opening number, the grand march, was headed by Gen. Matt Hood and lady, followed by Gov. Prescott and wife, ex-Gov. Stearns and wife, ex-Gov. Smyth and others. Supper was served at twelve o'clock in the city hall. Among those present were noticed



Adj.-Gen. Cross, Brig.-Gen. Clough and staff, representatives of the 1st and 3d New Hampshire militia, Capt. Noyes and Lieut. Sullivan, of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Boston, and representatives of the 1st Battalion of Cavalry and 7th Battalion of Infantry, Mass. Vol. militia.

**ALABAMA.**—The Montgomery Greys celebrated Washington's birthday with a target match and dress parade. The company turned out well, and presented, as they always do, a handsome appearance in their showy uniform. The average shooting was not equal to that at the last match. Private Andrews won the first prize, a gold medal. There was a tie between Private Garrett and Kennedy for the second prize; it resulted in favor of Private Kennedy. After the company formed in line and marched back to the city, there was a large crowd of people, of every sex, awaiting them on the streets to witness the dress parade of the Greys and Guard; the latter were not out in as full force as usual. The two companies went through battalion drill under command of Col. J. N. Gilmer, of the 2d regiment. Both companies acquitted themselves handsomely.

—The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the N. R. A. was held March 4, at which the committee on buildings submitted a report in full, and the preparation of a suitable contract for the erection of a club house was referred to the range committee. A communication from the Massachusetts Rifle Association in reference to the coming international long range match was received and referred. A committee composed of Major Fulton, Gen. Wylie and Col. Sanford were appointed to prepare a programme for the selection of an American team for 1878. Col. Wingate presented a badge for competition among the N. G. 200 and 500 yards, infantry, and 200 and 300 yards, cavalry, the badge to be awarded to the man winning it the greatest number of times during the year. An adjourned meeting of the board to hear reports of these committees will be held on March 12 at 3 P. M.

—The meeting called for the purpose of devising means for the relief of the 8th New York, held at the 1st Division rendezvous on March 5, was well attended. Gen. J. B. Woodard was called to the chair and Lieut.-Col. M. P. McGowan was chosen secretary. Gen. Shaler announced the object of the meeting, and stated that he was of opinion that a grand military entertainment would afford an opportunity for all to assist in the movement. Cols. Clark and Porter opposed the plan on the grounds that their regiments were now engaged in perfecting entertainments; but they would cheerfully subscribe to a fund for the relief of the 8th. Col. Cruger advocated Gen. Shaler's system, and on motion a committee consisting of Gen. Shaler, Cols. Clark, Cruger, Vose, and Porter were appointed to devise a suitable plan and report at a further meeting of all the officers of the division.

#### ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

**The editor of the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL must decline to decide points between officers and the men of their commands. No attention paid to fictitious signatures, unless accompanied by real name and address of writer.**

**HOSPITAL STEWARD.**—A reference to our congressional proceedings and list of bills before Congress will answer your inquiry.

**COLORS, West Virginia, asks: Does Co. C carry the colors of the regiment in all cases, notwithstanding the rank of its captain's commission? ANSWER.**—The third senior captain commands the color company no matter what the lotter of his company may be.

#### GENERAL SHERMAN'S OPINION.

THE Washington Post has lately published an account of two interviews with General Sherman, in the first of which the General was reported as saying some things not altogether complimentary to the members of Congress, and which have called forth much criticism. In the second interview he takes occasion to deny the charge made by members of the Military Committee that the West Pointers seek "to gradually eliminate by hook or by crook the officers who entered the Army from the volunteer service." General Sherman says:

"That is not so. No such feeling exists, and the best answer to the charge is the Army Register itself, which shows that a large and favorite portion of the officers of the Army are men who never saw West Point. There is Gen. Terry, one of the best and most highly esteemed officers in the organization. He entered the Army from civil life, as did also Col. Miles and others that I might mention; of the 25 colonels of infantry 10 are from civil life. Why should there be any such feeling among graduates of the Academy? Can you imagine any motive for it? Two of my aids are non-West Pointers. I think, on the contrary, there is a disposition among our officers to welcome men from civil life. We need and like to receive fresh blood. All of those officers from civil life are competent gentlemen, whose knowledge of the art of war has been obtained in actual service on the battle-field. The advantage that West Pointers had over them in the beginning and the advantage that they always will have is, that before beginning they had learned the trade of war, so far as it can be learned from books. This knowledge persons educated for other pursuits have to acquire when called from civil life in time of war, sometimes at the expense of human life. If you wanted a suit of clothes made, would it not be better to hire a competent tailor to make it than to give your work to a blacksmith, who would have to be taught tailoring before he could do the job? This prejudice against West Point and West Pointers is the most unreasonable and extraordinary."

"It exists, though, in Congress and throughout the country?"

"Yes; I am sorry to say it seems so, and like most prejudices is based on a misconception of well-attested facts. For instance, as it is frequently charged that it educates a class of aristocrats, when it is in point of fact the most democratic school on earth. In no other school is there such absolute equality. The son of the President and the son of the tailor stand on exactly the same footing. There is no such thing as favoritism known, and a cadet takes rank in his classes according to his industry and capacity. Instead of being the nurturer of an aristocracy it is the bulwark of democracy. Abolish West Point and your Army would soon be offered as in England, by the sons of the wealthy, who only could afford to pay for the education that our Government now gives the poor man's son as well as the millionaire's at West Point. Some of the most distinguished officers of our Army are the sons of people so poor that they could not have given their children even an ordinary common school education."

"As to this method of promotion from the ranks?"

"Well, any one that will take the pains to examine the Army Register will find that there have been a great many such promotions. The only objection to such promotion is that by the time a man becomes a good non-commissioned officer, fitted by experience to be recommended for promotion, he has generally attained an age of 26 years and over, and in time of peace becomes over 40 before he reaches a captaincy, whereas the Army needs for service young captains, and, if possible, young colonels. We have now as fine a lot of gallant young fellows in the Army as were ever gathered under the flag—brave, dashing, and capable, ready for any service, however hard it may be, and enduring uncomplainingly all of the hardships incident to frontier life and savage warfare. I have seen them at their far-off posts in the wilderness, on the battle-field, in society, and in every position in which they can be placed they conduct themselves, as a rule, in a manner that reflects credit on the service and on the people whose servants they are, and from whom they ought to receive at least the reward of recognition rather than the sneers so frequently seen in the press and uttered on the floors of Congress. In all of my travels, at home or abroad, I have never seen a finer body of men than the young officers of our Army, and I unhesitatingly assert that from Washington to Canton their superiors cannot be found in any branch of the service, civil or military, of any nation on the globe."

"Don't they, as a rule, prefer service in the cities, notwithstanding the increased cost of living?"

"Some of them do, of course. Like other human beings they

enjoy the comforts and luxuries of civilization. Then there are some who, from sickness or from the sickness of their families, or for the thousand and one reasons that impel other men to choice of home, ask, and in some instances receive, assignments to cities. This, however, is habitually ordered by the War Department, and the Secretary endeavors to select men by their merits and to assign them to such duties as they are best adapted to. All other things being equal, the Secretary sometimes accommodates the wants of the officer or his family. Take the case of Capt. Corbin, of the 9th Infantry. He is really on the regular recruiting detail, and was so chosen by his own colonel. While stationed on the unhealthy Rio Grande frontier for years, his children contracted diseases that have crippled them, I fear, for life. Any gentleman who could see the bright little creatures with their distorted limbs would not have the heart to deny them this chance of cure. Of course, he and his wife desired to do everything in their power in the way of employing medical science for the cure of their loved little ones, and with a view to aiding them in this effort he has been by the President himself assigned to duty here, where he will have the advantages of competent surgeons in the treatment of his children. There are numerous cases of this kind in the Army, and I am often entreated by Senators and Representatives for such assignments for their Army friends. I would most gladly yield to most of these requests, but am compelled to decline, for the reason that their presence with their companions is absolutely needed, and because there is no duty to be performed in the cities to which they can be properly assigned. As far as my own case is concerned, I would sooner be in the Rocky Mountains than in Washington."

"It has been charged that you travel on free railroad passes, and charge the Government for transportation?"

"You know it has, and it has been further charged that I am generally entertained at hotels and other places when traveling. Of course this is not true. I pay my fare on railroads and at hotels, and instead of getting better rates than other people I am compelled, in many instances, to pay more. In other words, I am charged according to my rank. I once had a conversation about this with Gen. Terry. He was complaining of the same high charges in hotels, and in his expressive way remarked: 'They just give our pile and go for it,' which expression conveys the idea. I understand that Gen. Bragg had the expense account of my last trip West examined, with a view of catching me on this question of transportation and the collection of mileage. He cast his net and got a water-haul."

The General further said that while he ranked higher than General Scott did his pay was less and the purchasing power of money also less, and that he and Mrs. Sherman were compelled to practice economy in order to make ends meet. In answer to a question as to what, in his opinion, the number of the Army should be, he said: "The necessities of the frontier and to guard our public property will require from 25,000 to 30,000 men, for at this moment there is almost absolute certainty of a renewed war with the Sioux. The Utes of Western Colorado are also likely to give us trouble, as are also the Bannocks in Idaho. The Mexican border calls for 5,000 men, and every time we attempt to withdraw troops from that quarter for use elsewhere disorders occur which compel us to send them back." He also said:

"I see that Gen. Bragg has made it one of the provisions of his bill that a tabulated statement of pay and allowances is hereafter to be published in the Army Register. If the committee had examined the registers of the Army for 10 years back they would have found that just such a statement has always been appended to the Army Register. They have called witnesses from all over the country to find out things about pay and other matters, all of which are of record to be found in the department here. We are paid from the Treasury Department, and the books will show just what we receive to a cent. There is no disposition to conceal anything. The Paymaster-General could and would have told the committee all that they have gotten from all the witnesses if they had asked him the same questions."

#### STONEWALL JACKSON.

GEN. INNIS N. PALMER, U. S. A., contributes to the Philadelphia Times, a sketch of Stonewall Jackson, from which we extract the following description of Jackson's appearance at the time he entered the Academy in 1842:

He was dressed in a suit of jeans—blue trousers and vest, and a cut-away coat of brown. He wore a "tile" and shoes. Boots would have been expensive for him in his town. In his long arms, his shambling gait and his general appearance was something so ludicrous that a shout went up from the assembled "things" as he appeared on the ground for his first drill. But with this *outré* appearance he had a good, well-shaped head, full, broad forehead, large, full and expressive brown eyes, a good mouth which, when smiling, gave an expression of great good nature as well as intelligence. This was Thomas J. Jackson—Stonewall Jackson—whose name will live and whose memory will be cherished for many years to come in this country. He was near upon the age when it would have been impossible for him to enter the Military Academy. He was from Clarksburg, Va.; he had been a constable even at this early age, and he was no doubt something of a man in his "destrict." He had been to a common school, knew a little of grammar, could add up a column of figures, but as to vulgar and decimal fractions, it is doubtful whether he had ever heard of them.

It was the custom then, as it is probably now, to arrange the candidates into sections and make them study and recite preparatory to the examination for admission. The instructors were taken from the cadets of the fourth class just passing into the third class year, and who were selected for excellence in their studies. The senior instructor that year was William H. C. Whiting, who stood at the head of his class. (Whiting was afterwards an officer of engineers, a Confederate general, and died of wounds received during the civil war.) Whiting saw at a glance that there was something in the well shaped head and the keen eye of Jackson, and he most generously devoted himself to bringing that something out. He gave him private lessons in arithmetic, particularly in fractions, and in a very short time put his *protege* in a fair way to pull through the examination.

All this time the suit of jeans was worn, and it caused no little mirth; not only among the cadets, but among the officers and professors. All of the good-natured fun poked at "Old Jack," as he was called by the "things," was received by him with a pleasant smile; but woe to the luckless fellow who attempted to put an affront upon him. The benevolent face and the mild eye and the sweet smile was in an instant changed, and it did not take a second look to be made

aware of the fact that it was back down or fight then and there.

Jackson passed his first examination creditably, though when he went to the blackboard the perspiration was streaming from his face, and during the whole examination his anxiety was painful to witness. While trying to work out his example in fractions the cuffs of his coat, first the right and then the left, were brought into requisition to wipe off the perspiration which streamed from his face. He was again successful for the January examination to the preparation for which his whole life was devoted, but the scene at the blackboard, although in mid winter, was a repetition of the one in June. He found himself rather low down in his class, but he had learned how to study, and he had the hearty sympathy and good-will of the professors and instructors. At the second June examination he passed so well that he was well up in his class and out of danger. But he never relaxed his hold. Through the whole four years he was one of the hardest students. At every examination he rose higher and higher, and had the course been five years instead of four I believe "Old Jack" would have brought up in the Engineer Corps.

Jackson's career in the Army during the few years he remained in it was highly creditable to him. He commanded a section of Magruder's Battery at the storming of the castle of Chapultepec, and those of the old officers who saw him on that occasion will never forget his coolness and the dogged courage with which he held his position under a terrible fire from the castle. He was of the same order of men as George H. Thomas—men whom nothing could daunt, and who were always found in the right place, and whom nothing but death could take from what they considered their place of duty.

After the Mexican war was over Jackson went to one of our Northern artillery posts. He suffered greatly from dyspepsia, and for a time became a hypochondriac. He married a daughter of the Rev. Dr. Junkin, and he became very much absorbed in church and religious matters. He never did anything by halves, and having joined the forces of the Lord of Hosts he was no luke-warm follower. It must not be presumed that Jackson was indifferent to the amenities of life or to the exactions of society. He was very punctilious in calls of ceremony or etiquette, and in everything that was expected of him as an officer and a gentleman. He was not without a spark of humor at times, and on one occasion, at least, something just verging on a spree was not unpleasant to him. I well recollect that in the summer of 1846 quite a number of the graduating class of that year assembled in a room in the old National Hotel in Washington. They were holding a rather noisy seance as I entered. The bottle went around rather freely—or rather a colored gentleman came around very often with a tray of juleps. The weather was very warm, and juleps are not cooling. The whole party were in shirt sleeves, and they were singing "Benny Havens" loud enough to be heard half way to the President's house. Jack was there, julep in hand, and he looked to me very much like the class leader of that frolic. Two gray headed and, I trust, very respectable gentlemen are the only survivors of that party. More than one-half of them died sword in hand, and their bones are strewn from Oregon to Mexico.

Jackson's career after he left the Army is a matter of history. In the Confederacy he was the great tower of strength. His life-blood oozed out at Chancellorsville. Without one groan or sigh of regret, with a full belief that he had tried to do his whole duty, he went to sleep with no fear as to his future existence.

COL. H. C. KING, for some time past publisher of the *Christian Union*, has surrendered that position to take charge of the *Orpheus*, a musical magazine. Col. King is a gentleman of decided musical talent, as all of his Army friends well know, and will, we do not doubt, make a success of the new publication. He is a son of ex-Postmaster-General King, and saw service during the war on the staffs of Generals Casey and Abercrombie as well as elsewhere. We hope to find some of the favorite Army songs set to appropriate music in the *Orpheus*.

On Feb. 13 the new series of trials of armor plates was commenced at Portsmouth, Eng. Three shots were fired at 9 in. plates from the 12-ton gun, charge, projectile, and distance being the same as at the last experiments. The three shots fired at the first plate each penetrated about ten inches, and created more than a dozen deep fissures, besides superficial cracks. On the second plate the penetration of the first and second shots was about nine inches; by the third shot the left section of the plate was carried away.

*Broad Arrow*, in an article on steel for shipbuilding, shows that as the result of the introduction of the Siemens-Martin and Bessemer processes, very important changes have been produced in the construction of war and mercantile ships. The Committee of Lloyd's Register of Shipping have given considerable attention to the subject, and after most careful inquiry and elaborate experiment have decided to classify ships of steel, and allow a deduction of 20 per cent. in the sizes from those required for iron ships. At the present time dozens of merchant steamers of large tonnage are being built of steel on the Clyde, and the tendency seems to be for steel to take the place of iron in shipbuilding. The Admiralty in this matter has actually taken the lead, and is now being followed by the mercantile marine—a phenomenon not often witnessed. Up to the present time it has been found that punching holes in the steel causes it to become brittle, and it is therefore necessary to carefully anneal every plate before putting it into the ship. If somebody would invent a drilling machine capable of competing successfully with the punching tool, he would make his fortune.



## FOREIGN ITEMS.

The British ministers at Stockholm and Copenhagen deny the rumor that Russia has suggested to Sweden and Norway that the Baltic should be made a *mare clausum* against Powers not possessing Baltic seaboard.

Mr. THORNEYCROFT, the constructor of the steel torpedo launches, has been requested by the English government to reserve for them all the torpedo launches which he is at present completing, and some of which were for foreign governments.

The opinion is expressed by some of the Indian journals that in the event of war with Russia no European troops could be spared, but that native troops, if properly officered, would be available in large numbers, and might be relied upon to serve well.

The Russian *Golos* announces that Osman Pasha has given its editor positive assurances that there is not a word of truth in the reports of his cruelty to prisoners of war circulated in Russia. Osman Pasha has declared that he had not altogether more than thirty prisoners, who were carried to Sophia.

The *Iris*, built with special view to speed, made but 16.4 knots per hour on her measured mile trial in England. Her displacement is 3,735 tons; engines, 7,000 horse power; so that she has 1,873 horse power to the ton. The *Inconstant*, frigate of 5,783 tons displacement, and 7,361 horse power engines, or 1,273 horse power to the ton, made 16.5 knots an hour.

In a recent lecture on torpedoes, Lieut. F. J. Palmer, R. N., described the invention for deluging a ship and her crew with crude petroleum, igniting it by rockets, and taking advantage, caused by the fire and confusion on board, to plant torpedoes under her sides. Whether this is practical or not we are unable to say, but at any rate the suggestion is diabolical enough.

The failure of two Whitehead torpedoes, launched by the Russians against the Turks at Batoum, is ascribed to the fact that the Russian officers omitted to remove the safety-pin, and that the torpedoes were set to run at a depth of 25 ft., which would take them some feet under the keel of the ship aimed at. The Turks, into whose hands the derelict torpedoes fell, have taken them to pieces, and discovered the secret of their manufacture.

In current military statistics, says a writer in *Lippincott's*, we find a statement that, of eleven hundred and one thousand men on the German army list, three hundred and ninety-eight thousand have a black mark against their names as having shirked service. The number who leave the limits of the empire to avoid this public requirement is roughly stated at one hundred thousand. A very large part of the nominal army is in the United States hard at work in peaceful employment; other portions are in different European states.

The imperial Brazilian iron-clad turret frigate *Independencia*, building in England, has just completed her steam trials in a very satisfactory manner, and is being got ready for commission. She is described as one of the most powerful ships afloat. Her arrangement of armor plating is somewhat similar to the *Dreadnought*, and its thickness is little inferior to the *Devastation* and *Thunderer*, while her armament of Whitworth guns is more formidable than that of either of those ships. She can steam one knot per hour faster than the *Devastation* or *Thunderer*, and also possesses the very desirable quality of being able to cruise under sail, being a full rigged ship. Dimensions, 68x100 feet; draft, 24 feet 9 inch loaded; displacement, 8,960 tons.

At a recent meeting of the French Academy of Sciences a paper was read giving an account of the working of a very successful ventilating apparatus lately fitted on board the French transport *Annamite*, one of four large vessels built for conveying troops to and from Cochinchina. The ventilation of the ship is effected by utilising the heat escaping up the funnels when the vessel is under steam; or by lighting small fires for the purpose when the transport is lying at anchor; and especial attention has been given to providing for the ventilation of a sick bay established in the centre of the vessel, and also of the deck on which the men sleep.

COL VALENTINE BAKER, in common with all other foreign officers in the Ottoman service, has, in compliance with a recent order, resigned his commission and left Turkey. An attempt to murder Baker, Captain Burnaby, and others, at Gumerjina, near Lagos, in the *Ægean*, is reported. While at dinner at the Greek Archbishop's konak on the 23d of January the wine was discovered to be poisoned. Fortunately, only a few had drunk any of it, and these immediately had administered to them copious draughts of salt and water by Dr. Scotchley. One gentleman did not recover for two days. The poison, on being tested, was found to be arsenic. The Bishop is fully exonerated, but the servants who attended, habited as monks, are suspected.

The report of the committee on the *Inflextible* has now been presented to Parliament, with the appendices attached, and together they form a Blue Book of considerable size, which can be purchased by any one interested in the subject. *Engineering* thinks that the Russian gunners must have deteriorated sadly since the days of the "Wasp" battery at the Crimea, if with modern artillery and shell fire they could not destroy the unarmed ends of the *Inflextible* infinitely faster than the Malta shipwrights could restore them, and long before her few ponderous and slow-firing guns could produce much effect on the shore batteries. "It seems to us," says *Engineering*, "that if any considerable improvement is to be made in spar torpedo warfare it must be looked for in the torpedoes themselves, that is to say in the means employed either within the torpedo or apart from it, for discharging it against a vessel, say thirty or fifty yards distance."

THE acquisition of the Turkish ironclad *Payki Sherref*, now ready for sea, and her sister ship, nearly complete, adds two powerful ironclads to the English navy. Technically speaking, the *Payki Sherref* is an iron armor cased corvette, with a fighting battery deck amidships, which rises from below the water-line to a height of about 18 feet amidships, and mounts four 25-ton guns, 12-inch muzzle loaders, Armstrongs, two on the port and two on the starboard side. The armor plating consists of a belt of 12-in. iron at the water-line, diminishing above and below to 8 in., the thickness of iron protecting the battery varying from 9½ to 10½ in. The main deck, which will be nearly level with the water, is composed of 8-in. plates of armor, encased in oak. Upon this main deck is erected a spar or hurricane deck, containing the officers' cabins and other appointments, but the assumption is that all this deck will be shot away in action, leaving only the armor defended battery and submerged hull as a mark for the enemy. The designer of the ship was Hemit Pasha, of the Turkish navy, and for her length she is remarkably spacious. She measures between perpendiculars 245 feet, and has a breadth of nearly 60 feet, even at a few feet from the stem and stern. The ship's crew, officers and men, will number 300. The engines have a nominal horsepower of 600 and 3,900 indicated. The speed is 12 knots an hour, but she actually attained 12.99 knots on her trial. These ironclads, building in England, were embargoed as contraband of war. An official survey has also been made of another Turkish ironclad, the *Hamidié*, detained under similar circumstances in the Victoria Docks. She is plated with 12 in. of iron on 14 in. teak, and two inner plates each of 2½ in. of iron, and is pierced for 12 18-ton guns, supplemented by some lighter guns on the upper deck, but none of the guns are yet on board. She has no turrets, and fights her guns from the main deck. The purchase of this vessel is still under consideration, and there are one or two other ironclads in the docks near London which may be obtained, if required for the service of the British government.

The *Engineer* says: In their efforts to produce an improved field-gun, the authorities connected with the Royal Gun Factories have been gaining fresh light of great value as to the conditions of success. One element of accuracy in the shooting of breech-loaders has been very clearly ascertained, and will be appropriated for the benefit of muzzle-loaders. When a gun is loaded from the rear the shot of course goes in first. This being the process, it has been necessary to fix the position of the shot by some mechanical arrangement, independently of the powder charge. Hence the powder chamber has been made to retain an unvarying capacity, and it has been perfectly practicable for each round to possess exactly the same elements. Consequently, when shooting for accuracy, a very neat diagram has been made, it being possible to lodge the several shots very close together. The muzzle-loader having its shot rammed down upon its cartridge, has been subject to varying degrees of pressure on the latter, and a varying position of the shot. Weight for weight, any number of rounds might be exactly the same, but the capacity of the powder chamber might be rarely twice alike. What this involves has been strikingly apparent in the experiments with the 80-ton gun. A gun is loaded not only with powder and shot but also with air, and the proportion of the latter affects the burning of the cartridge, the pressure set up in the gun, and the velocity imparted to the projectile. If a breech-loader has the same weight of powder and shot in a succession of rounds, it also has the same bulk of air behind the shot. The makers and advocates of breech-loaders were apparently unconscious until lately of the advantage which they gained in this respect. But the matter is well understood by Herr Krupp at the present time. The principle being apprehended, there is no reason why it should not be applied to muzzle-loading guns, and this is the point which has now been reached. There is no need for any more of this, and the new field-gun will unquestionably be provided with better appliances for securing a fixed capacity in the powder chamber. It is also possible that we may see some change in the position of the copper gas check. Herr Krupp places his gas check—at least in some of his recent guns—a short distance in advance of the base of the shot, the gas check being a ring or band instead of a disc. As this tends to weaken a projectile, it would be an objection in an armor-piercing shot or shell; but the objection would not apply in the case of field artillery. There are certain advantages in such an application of the gas check, and though there may be some mechanical difficulty in employing this method with muzzle-loaders, it would seem that something of the kind can be effected. As for the rifling, it is unquestionable that we are bidding good-bye to the studs, and that rotation is to be obtained henceforth from the gas check, in conjunction with the polygrove system.

THE naval correspondent of the London *Times* gives a graphic description of the embarkation of Suleiman Pasha's army, which it will be remembered succeeded in reaching the sea. The army was in a miserable plight; no tents, nor the slightest shelter for the men even at night. The poor fellows were stretched along the beach, seeking as best they could to keep themselves alive upon the scanty ration of a biscuit a day. At the part of the coast reached by the toil-worn army there were not the slightest facilities for the work; the ships could not approach within two miles of the shore; there was no port, nothing but the open coast; the anchorage was bad, and most thoroughly exposed to the south-westerly gales, which at the present season of the year alternate with the strong north-west snow-laden winds, as great a danger for ships at sea, as for others when at anchor off the inhospitable shore. Under these adverse circumstances, the *Omanieh*, Hobart Pasha's flagship, with her consorts, and two government tugs, two Austrian steamers and a Turkish trans-

port, were gathered off shore. All the caiques and small craft in the neighborhood were seized. A series of warping buoys were laid out with heavy kedge anchors from the scale-head to a distance of 600 yards. The men walked down to the boats without much regard to order, the embarkation, as far as the military authorities were concerned, being left very much to take care of itself. The Turkish soldier is, however, so docile and patient, that there was little or no confusion; they took their places quietly in the boats with their small bundles, and going up the ship's side, encamped at once upon the deck, perfectly resigned to circumstances and ready to make the best of everything. Notwithstanding all they had gone through, they looked in much better condition than might have been supposed, and it was surprising to see how well their arms had been kept, considering that during a campaign the Turkish company officers never think of going in for inspection. The loss of officers during the last few weeks' fighting has been tremendous. In Nedjib Pasha's brigade of 2,500 men there were only three field officers, and those of subordinate rank were equally wanting. By the evening of Sunday there were 6,000 on their way to Constantinople. Tuesday night saw three other transports on their way, with over 8,000, and on Wednesday three Egyptian vessels sailed with another 7,000. On Thursday the finest piece of trooping of the whole operation was performed by the *Omanieh*, 3,000 men being embarked between the hours of 10 A.M. and 1 P.M.; 1,000 men had been taken in during the previous night. 15,000 men in all were landed at Gallipoli, the divisions of Baker and Raschid Paschas, Shakir's and Nedjib's divisions, another 12,000 were landed at Tchekmedje; while the remainder, under the command of Fuad, were brought on to Constantinople.

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## MARRIED.

[Announcements of Marriages and Births FIFTY CENTS each and the signature and address of the party sending must accompany the notice.]

MOORE-BULLYMORE.—On the 5th March, at the residence of the bride's father, by the Rev. L. J. Fletcher, D.D., Lieut. JOHN H. MOORE, U. S. Navy, to Miss KATZ V., eldest daughter of Richard Bullymore, Esq., of Buffalo, N. Y. No cards.

## DIED.

Brief announcements will be inserted under this head without charge. Obituary notices and resolutions should be paid for at the rate of two cents a word, unless it is intended to leave the question of their insertion to the discretion of the Editor.

CHAFFEE.—At New York, March 4, 1878, MARIE, aged six months, youngest daughter of Captain Adna R. Chaffee, Sixth Cavalry U. S. A., and Annie Francis Chaffee.

WHISTLER.—Mrs. JULIA WHISTLER—the oldest Army lady, and widow of one of America's oldest officers—died at Newport, Ky., Feb. 13, 1878.

A century! What a lapse of time it seems! how many glad summers with their blossoms, and frosty winters with their chills, come before us! But seldom do we see it embodied before us in "human existence" in one we love and esteem. But the dear old friend has passed away, and with her many memories of times long gone by, loved and cherished by those who were privileged enough to live within the circle of her influence. Mrs. Julia Whistler was the widow of Col. Wm. Whistler, who died during the third year of the Rebellion, at the advanced age of 83. Her experiences of Army life were long and varied, having shared all the vicissitudes of her husband's position, incident to his distant line of duty at frontier posts. She was with her husband at the surrender of Gen. Hull, in which she really took an active part in his endeavors to prevent the event she so lamented, the recitals of which to extreme old age would excite and quicken her pulse. God, in his wisdom, spared her to witness the growth to manhood and womanhood, of a youthful generation of descendants. Her son, Gen. Whistler, has long spent a long life in the service of his country. Graduated at West Point in 1846, he has been now 31 years in service, and his son stationed now at Key West, together with several others of her grandsons, are now bearing arms. To speak of her manners and present age, so remarkable for its easy dignity, while we listened to her lucid statements of the past, undimmed by age, was only to carry us back to the times of Jefferson, Madison, and the style of its ancient dames.

She retained to the last a fervent love for the rites and ritual of the church she belonged to (Catholic), and evinced by the beautiful simplicity of her unaffected and sincere piety that God's chosen are found by their practical walk. She never argued, she never urged, but always respected the pure love of God wherever she found or met it. It was hoped by those who loved her, that when the time came for her to sleep in Jesus, it would be a painless change; but, an All-wise Will decreed it otherwise, and a long and weary sickness proved that this brave woman, who had undauntedly listened to cannons' roar, could pass through the valley and shadow of death, and fear no evil, for His rod and staff was with her.

She leaves five children—four daughters and one son. Two of her daughters were also widows of officers of the U. S. Army; the other two widows of prominent public men—one of General Whistler, before noticed—and grandchildren and great grandchildren. Her funeral took place at Newport, Ky., where she has resided for many years. Her children and grandchildren were ever devoted to her, and two of her granddaughters have devoted many years to her during the necessary absence of her children. She was borne to her final resting place (as she would have desired) by officers of the Army, residing near. One of the most tender acts noticeable in her burial was the wish, her last one, that her husband should be disinterred and both placed in a common grave, and when the funeral cortege arrived at the cemetery the remains of her husband was there waiting, having been removed from beyond Cincinnati to where they now rest, side by side—six miles beyond Newport, Ky. The old arm chair is vacant, indeed.

We'll miss her, we'll miss her, that cheery smile, At the best, at the best, it's only a while, God knows in His mercy, what is ever for the best, And in love thus has taken her home to His rest.

ONE OF THE FAMILY.



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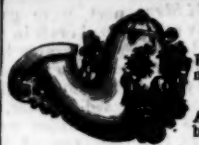
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| Loans on mortgages .....                           | 2,343,333.34           |
| Loans on collateral .....                          | 317,900.00             |
| Loans on policies .....                            | 9,289.50               |
| Premium notes .....                                | 1,627,427.25           |
| Stocks and bonds owned, market val. ....           | 8,197,412.78           |
| Cash in banks .....                                | 374,372.17             |
| Special deposit at New Orleans .....               | 6,500.00               |
| Interest and rents due and accrued .....           | 223,875.05             |
| Net amount uncollected and deferred premiums ..... | 327,551.44             |
|  | <b>\$14,460,920.53</b> |
| LIABILITIES.                                       |                        |
| Death losses due and unpaid .....                  | \$19,000.00            |
| Endowments due and unpaid .....                    | 29,848.00              |
| Death losses in process of adjustment .....        | 61,855.00              |
| Death losses resisted .....                        | 23,312.00              |
| Net prem. reserve .....                            | 12,253,850.00          |
| Distributions unpaid .....                         | 157,399.74             |
| Premiums paid in advance, unpaid bills, etc. ....  | 7,577.16               |
|  | <b>—12,815,841.90</b>  |
| Total surplus .....                                | <b>\$1,621,078.63</b>  |

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